

John Wall 12 York-Street - Covent Garden

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.



No. 20.—VOL. I.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1862.

ONE PENNY.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S VISIT TO THE EAST.

VIENNA.

No public demonstrations have taken place on the occasion of the Prince of Wales's visit to the East. He is travelling under the title of Baron Renfrew, more in the character of a private gentleman than a prince. Our illustrations consequently lose much of their attraction; but we believe a series of engravings of the most important places and cities visited by the future heir to England's throne will not be devoid of interest. Our first selection is the principal seat of continental politics, Vienna, which, from its size, wealth, population, and activity, ranks next to London and Paris. It is a city of Germany, and the capital of the Austrian empire, in the province of Lower Austria, on an arm of the Danube. The population is upwards of 400,000; and the extensive establishments for cotton-printing, the manufacture of silks, velvets, and other fabrics, afford employment for the great bulk of the people. The porcelain manufacture of Vienna is amongst the most celebrated on the Continent; while, in addition, foundries for cannon and small arms, the manufactories for cutlery, watches, bronze and other metallic goods, meerschaum pipes, musical instruments, paper, gloves, chemical products, &c., constitute a commerce extending to nearly every civilised country.

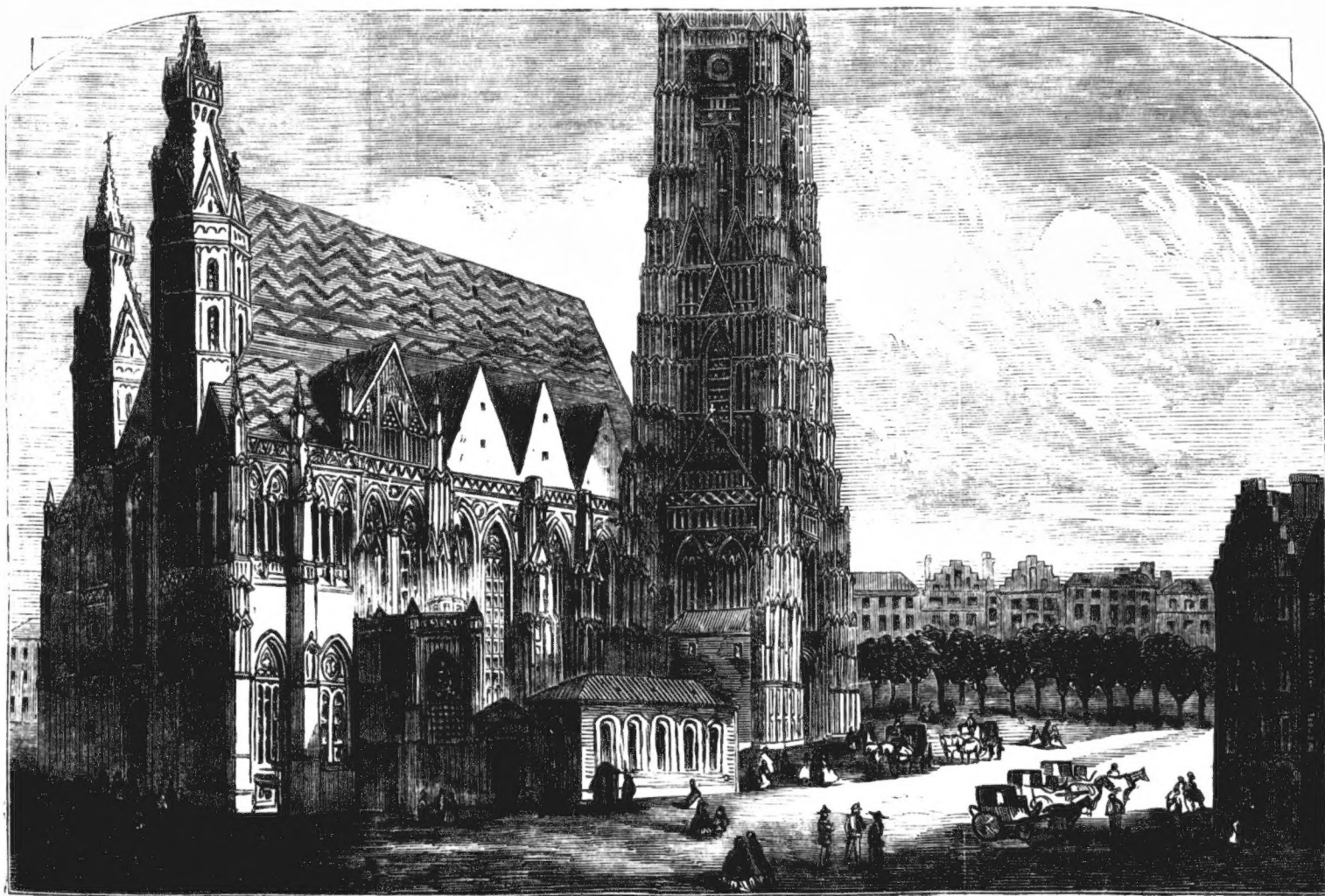
Among the public buildings visited by the Prince of Wales was the Cathedral of St. Stephen, an engraving of which we herewith present. It occupies a site almost in the centre of the city, and from which the principal thoroughfares diverge. It is an elegant Gothic building, ranking in elevation and richness of architecture with the cathedrals of Antwerp and Strasbourg; its length is 350 feet, and its greatest breadth 220 feet. Flanking its great west doorway are two towers, the

remains of the original church, constructed in 1163; and at the angles of this front are two magnificent piles of a similar kind, though only the most southerly has been finished. This tower and spire is 450 feet in height, or barely 16 feet lower than that of Strasbourg; it has a bell 375 cwt. cast from cannon taken from the Turks, and declines from the north about three feet from the perpendicular. The exterior of the cathedral has a good deal of rich tracery. Within are some good wooden carving, and a few good pictures, the monuments of Prince Eugene, the Emperor Frederick III, &c., which particularly attracted the attention of the Prince of Wales. There is also a gorgeous chapel of the Lichtenstein family; but, on the whole, its interior is but little decorated. A crypt beneath it served for three centuries as the burial-place of the imperial family; at present, however, only parts of their viscera are preserved here; their hearts being deposited in the Augustine Church, and the rest of their bodies in that of the Capuchins.

The Burg, or Imperial Palace, which the Prince of Wales visited, is very similar, as far as architecture, to St. James's Palace. It is a gloomy and shapeless mass of buildings, erected between the 14th and 17th centuries. The state apartments, with their ancient gildings, and faded velvet hangings, remain in the same condition as in the time of Maria Theresa.

The Prince of Wales, during his short stay at Munich, visited the numerous works of art for which the Bavarian capital is so famous, accompanied by his future brother-in-law, Prince Louis of Hesse. The presence of their Royal Highnesses at Munich has been scarcely noticed, as the strictest *incognito* has been observed. On Sunday both Princes were invited to breakfast by the King.

A telegram in Sunday's *Galignani* states that the Prince of Wales left Vienna on Saturday morning.



THE PRINCE VISITING THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. STEPHEN, VIENNA.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The parliamentary news has been interesting and varied. In the House of Lords on Monday, the Earl of Derby, in directing the attention to the revised code of education, observed that, although the modifications introduced by the Government had removed some of his objections, he thought that the entire scheme should be embodied in a series of resolutions.

Earl Granville saw no reason why the usual course should be departed from.

The Earl of Clarendon drew attention to certain letters of the late Count Cavour recently published in the newspapers, which he said had occasioned him great surprise. He felt bound to deny the absurdity therein imputed to him of having advised Piedmont to pick a quarrel with Austria, in which the former would have the material support of England. The only expression which could be construed into the language used in the letters was, that if Austria made war on Piedmont the latter might be sure of the sympathy of the English parliament and people.

The Lord Chancellor called attention to the subjects of the title to land and its transfer, and laid upon the table a Bill giving certain titles to real estates. He explained that the object of the measure was threefold—first, to save a good statutory indefeasible title; second, to provide the means by which that title might be ascertained; and, thirdly, the means by which it had been transferred. A registry would be established, to be divided into two parts—one for guaranteed or statutory titles, and the other for such titles as were intended to be made statutory and indefeasible. There would also be a register of mortgages; and, upon the whole the transfer of an estate would, under the Bill, be made in the same manner and with the same formalities as the transfer of stock in the Bank of England, and with as little an expenditure of time and money. After a short discussion, the Bill, with two others on the same subject proposed by Lord Chelmsford, and two by Lord Cranworth, was brought in and read a first time.

In the House of Commons, Sir G. Grey, in answer to an inquiry of Mr. H. Seymour, stated that the Bishop of London had on Saturday last submitted to the Lord Chancellor the draft of a Bill to which, he said, the bishops of the Church of England had agreed, for the amendment of the Church Discipline Act. The Irish prelates had not yet been consulted upon the subject.

In reply to Mr. Murray, the Attorney-General stated that it was not the intention of the Government to introduce any Bill for consolidating the laws relating to bankruptcy.

In answer to Mr. Longfield, Sir R. Peel announced that he contemplated bringing in a Bill to confer equal powers upon all justices of the peace, whether unpaid or stipendiary, in Ireland.

Lord Palmerston, in reply to Lord Dunkellin, stated that the Government had received a communication from the Atlantic Royal Mail Company relating to the present position and prospects of that company. He would rather not state what was the nature of its contents; but if the noble lord would move for the paper, he would not object to its production.

On the order for going into a committee of supply, Sir H. Willsomby asked for explanations with reference to the amount of £973,000 for supplementary navy and army estimates.

Sir G. C. Lewis replied that, as far as the information in the possession of the Admiralty and War-office went, they believed the supplemental estimates before the house would be sufficient to cover the excess of expenditure beyond the sums voted for the service of the year.

Mr. Bright availed himself of the opportunity to make an onslaught upon the conduct of the Government and their organs in the press. He admitted that, in making their demand upon the American Government in the affair of the Trent they had done what was right, and that the Foreign-office had acted with all courtesy, so far as the language of despatches was concerned.

Lord Palmerston observed that the opinions he had expressed were as nearly as possible confined to himself. If the United States Government had felt themselves bound by international law, as the hon. member asserted, why had they not, upon their own principles, given up the prisoners? Why did they wait for the demand to be made, and for the display of force? Besides, Captain Wilkes was made the hero of the hour for having had the courage to insult the British flag. He was honoured with a grand ovation at Boston, and he received the thanks of the House of Representatives and the approbation of the Admiralty. So far from the Government being blameworthy, then, he considered that they were entitled to commendation.

The house having gone into committee of supply, the several items of the supplementary navy and army estimates were explained, discussed, and agreed to.

The Parochial Assessments Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

In committee of the whole house on Indian Stocks transfer (remuneration) a resolution was agreed to, upon which a Bill was subsequently brought in.

The question of the Electorate of Hesse was brought before the Prussian Chamber of Deputies on Friday. Count Bernstorff, the Foreign Minister, said it was decidedly the aim of the Government to re-establish public law and right in Electoral Hesse.

It is stated that the French Government have made arrangements with a well-known banking-house to obtain from London two millions sterling on security of Renten; the object of this private arrangement being to avoid the necessity of the name of the French Government appearing in the transaction.

The *Moniteur* publishes despatches from Admiral Board, giving details of the taking of Beinhua, which the Annamites energetically defended. The result of this last operation, it is considered, will assure to the French and Spaniards the possession of an uncontested base for operations in Cochinchina.

The Prussian Government has addressed a note to Austria and the other German States of the Wurzburg Coalition. That coalition the Prussian Government refuses to recognise. It is significant, when taken in connexion with these angry interchanges of opinion, that a report comes to us through the French papers, to the effect that Prussia is about to recognise the new kingdom of Italy.

The Leicester election, caused by the retirement of Mr. Bigges, took place on Monday, when Mr. F. A. Taylor, of extreme Radical principles, was returned without opposition.

The churches of Warsaw were opened with great solemnity on the 13th inst. The new archbishop officiated in the cathedral, and addressed the congregation, dissuading them from singing the prohibited hymns, and assuring them that if they abstained from further manifestations he could guarantee the Emperor's gracious intentions towards Poland.

A treaty of commerce between Russia and Turkey has just been signed at Constantinople.

A telegram in anticipation of the in-coming Bombay mail informs us of the universal sorrow which was caused in India by the news of the death of the lamented Prince Consort. The Madras army is to be reduced to twelve regiments. The supposed Nana Sahib had been taken to Bombay in irons, and lodged in goal.

The New York papers make extracts from the Southern journals to show that great distress and much privation exist among the soldiers and their families. The *Savannah Republican* publishes a letter from Bainbridge, dated January 27, containing the report of a fight at James's Island, near Apalachicola, in which sixty Union troops were killed, and the Southerners gained a great victory.

The case for the prosecution of Captain Robertson, of the 4th Dragoon Guards, closed on Friday last. Some of the witnesses rather favoured the prisoner's statement. The prisoner intimated his intention to give in a written defence, and obtained an adjournment of the court in order to prepare it.

Foreign News.

FRANCE.

The *Patrie* contradicts the news lately given by the *Independence* that Italian troops were about to occupy Rome and the patrimony of the Pope jointly with the French, and asserts that the *status quo* will be maintained.

A French priest named de Murard has just had an audience of the Pope to present him with 300,000 fr., subscribed in Lyons to the St. Peter's Fund.

The *Pays* hears that the English colony of Sierra Leone is in a state of hopeless anarchy, and that twenty English soldiers were killed in a recent combat with the natives.

The *Moniteur* publishes a long account of the fighting in Cochinchina. The French had only two men killed and a few wounded. Henceforth Cochinchina may be set down as a dependency of France.

A letter from Mesched, in Khorassan, of the 8th December, states that a French traveller, M. de Bloqueville, who had long been in captivity among the Turcomans, and was recently set at liberty was expected in that city.

The Mexican news is read with greater avidity than the Cochinchina, although the latter came from a recently won colony of France; and the assurance that the relations established by the French commissioners and the Mexican Government are very pacific and full of courtesy, gives great satisfaction to all who feared that Transatlantic Austria was on the point of coming into existence.

The semi-official papers announce that the conversion of Renten is going on swimmingly, and the *Debats* states that nearly 1,800 Renten paid into the treasury a sum of £260,000, as a *solde*, or difference between the conversion of their four-and-a-half per cents stock into three per cents.

From a Neapolitan letter, it appears that the populace at Naples had no sooner given Alexandre Dumas an ovation than they proceeded to give another, just as hearty, to M. Soulange Bodin, who appeared at his windows, and saluted the crowd, which cried "Vive l'Empereur," and "Vive la France," instead of "A bas le Pope," as was asserted by some ill-advised and ill-informed correspondents. The *Prussian Gazette* publishes (we learn by telegraph) the Berlin Cabinet's answer to Vienna, and therein flatly and firmly refuses to listen to Austrian propositions. Germany, therefore—that is to say, the people—can now form a correct estimation of the diplomatic relations between the two great Powers, both of which are again contending for political supremacy in fatherland.

The Council of State has just submitted to it for examination a bill for establishing an additional tax for 18fr. per 100 kilogrammes on sugar of all growths. The same bill raises to 20fr. per 100 kilogrammes the present duty on the consumption of salt. The bill, moreover, enacts that the new duties shall be chargeable on all sugar and salt exceeding 100 kilogrammes, which manufacturers, refiners, and others may have on hand when the bill becomes a law.

ITALY.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on Monday, the postal conventions between the Italian Government and Switzerland and Greece were approved.

The National Committee have issued an address to the Roman people, urging them to discretion. The nation, it says, ought to prepare for events, showing to Europe a firm desire to separate the temporal from the spiritual, but also respect towards the Pontiff and the ministers of religion.

The *Diritto* contains the following, dated Turin, Feb. 17:—"Garibaldi, having been informed that in some towns clandestine enrolments are being made in his name, has requested us to declare that he has neither authorized nor recommended the adoption of any such steps."

The demonstration that took place at Genoa was distinguished by a feature which has been wanting elsewhere—namely, the prevalence of democratic shouts with which the name of Mazzini was conspicuously coupled.

A little more animation has been manifested at the theatres, where calls were made for "Garibaldi's Hymn," and where the popular enthusiasm found vent in a repetition of the patriotic cries most adapted to the circumstances.

The Duomo was thronged by a crowd of persons, eagerly intent upon hearing a discourse from the Sicilian friar, Pantaleo, who had arrived from Turin. The authorities of the cathedral had blocked up the entrance to the pulpit, but a ladder was procured, and the friar was in this unorthodox manner, hoisted into his position, from which he continued to edify his congregation for nearly half an hour with a highly seasoned harangue, which, in spite of the protestations of the preacher, was continually interrupted with shouts of applause and cries of "Down with the Pope-King." After this nothing would please the people but to set the bells ringing, and the presence of a detachment of the National Guard was required to quell the uproar.

RUSSIA.

On Friday se'nnight died Count Lanskoy, for many years Minister of the Interior, and co-operator with the Emperor in the work of emancipation of the peasants. He was replaced by M. Balolew about ten months since, and was then created a count. The Emperor visited his old minister scarcely twenty-four hours before his decease, and left the sick chamber in deep grief.

M. Nesselrode, who has been indisposed, is now better.

It is much remarked that at the sittings of the Assembly of Nobles there is always a numerous auditory consisting principally of ladies and members of the diplomatic corps. Lord Napier, the English Ambassador, is generally amongst the latter, and is attended by a short-hand writer and translator, whose reports are forwarded to England.

PRUSSIA.

The following is the text of the proposition laid before the Prussian Chamber of Deputies by M. de Carlowitz on the 14th inst. respecting the recognition of the King of Italy:—

"That the Chamber do decide to vote the declaration, that it is in the interest of Prussia to delay no longer in recognising the kingdom of Italy." This resolution, it is stated, is attributable to the difficulties now pending between Prussia and Austria.

The Bill "on Ministerial responsibility" has been adopted by the committee of the Upper Prussian Chamber by eight votes against four, with the important modification, however, that ministers cannot be sentenced unless they openly violate the express regulations of the law.

The question of the Electorate of Hesse is actually before the Prussian Chamber of Deputies. M. de Twetten, the first speaker, insisted upon the necessity of Prussia interfering by force of arms. Count Bernstorff replied that the Government was firmly resolved that any alteration in the Constitution of the Electorate of Hesse of 1831 should be operated only by legal and constitutional means. The debate was adjourned.

The Prussian Government has testified its gratitude to Abel-Kader for his conduct on behalf of the Christians, in July, 1860, by conferring on him the insignia of the order of the Red Eagle, first class. M. Horford, the Prussian consul, waited on the Emir in full uniform, and presented the decoration to him. Austria will, it is thought, accord him a distinction of the same kind.

THE WAR IN COCHIN-CHINA.

PARIS, FEB. 17.—The *Moniteur* of to-day publishes despatches from Admiral Bonard, giving details of the taking of Beinhua. The Annamites energetically defended the town. The result of the last operations assures to the allies the possession of an uncontested base for operations in Cochinchina.

AUSTRALIA.

VICTORIA.—Parliament re-assembled on the 17th instant, for a short sitting previous to the Christmas recess, when it was evident, from the appearance of the house, that the new Government was even stronger in force than was expected.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The news from this colony is of a very tranquil character, and contains nothing of any great interest, the following summary from the *Sydney Herald* will show:—The Northern, with the English mails of October, arrived here on the 17th instant. The first portion of Sir M. Peto and Co.'s railway extensions, consisting of five miles of the Western line, is to be opened for the goods traffic next week. Most of the articles intended for the International Exhibition were shipped in the *Vineira*, and a few followed in the *Wave of Life*. The remainder, which will consist of samples of the new clip of wool and the new crops of cereals, will be despatched by the January mail steamer. Preparations are in progress for the usual inter-colonial cricket match, to come off next month in Melbourne, and also for the match between the All England Eleven and Twenty-two Sydney cricketers. The arrivals from England have been the *Dolphin*, *Isles of the South*, *Star of Peace*, *Mutual*, *Duncan Dunbar*, and *Saxon*. The *Canaan*, *Vineira*, and *Wave of Life* have sailed for London. The following ships are loading for London:—The *Annie Archbell*, *Cissy*, *Daphne*, *Jason*, *La Hogue*, *Lochiel*, *Star of Peace*, *Stornoway*, and *Walter Hood*.

THE GOLDFIELDS.—The accounts from the various mining districts are mostly good. The anticipations, however, in regard to the Lachlan goldfields in New South Wales have not been realised. The yield is extraordinary, but the quantity of ground is limited. The southern gold miners were extremely busy. It was said that the Chinese are gathering there; and it was anticipated that there would be 10,000 of them before the close of the summer. Private accounts from New Zealand, as well as the published statements of the quantity of gold actually obtained, have caused a partial renewal of the rush thither, and many were now proceeding to Otago, with the determination of remaining some time, and judging for themselves of the goldfields in that province.

LATEST SUMMARY—HOME AND FOREIGN.

ANOTHER APPALLING COLLIERY ACCIDENT.

ANOTHER dreadful colliery catastrophe occurred on Wednesday near Merthyr Tydvil through fire-damp. Fifty lives have been sacrificed. We have despatched our artists to the scene of the melancholy event, and shall next week present truthful engravings of the works, and all particulars.

THE ACCIDENT AT HACKNEY.—The verdict in this distressing case was returned on Wednesday, to the effect that it was occasioned by the materials used being of inferior quality, by the incompleteness of the roof, undue haste and want of more efficient supervision.

THE VOLUNTEERS.—The serious difficulty which menaced the great volunteer review or field-day at Brighton has been removed by Sir G. C. Lewis appointing Lord Clyde to the command, a measure which will not only give additional impetus to the movement, but must even prove satisfactory to Lord Ranelagh and his friends and the whole of the volunteer corps.

FRANCE.—No news of importance, farther than the Bourse remains heavy.

CHINA.—The insurrection in Shanghai and the central provinces is making progress. The insurgents have informed the English consul at Hangchow that they intend attacking that city, also Shanghai; also that they intended to act with moderation, but if resisted, threatened total destruction to both cities.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE FRENCH SENATE.—PARIS, FEB. 17.—The reading of the Address took place to-day in the Senate.

The following is a summary of these paragraphs of it relating to foreign affairs.

The address congratulates the Emperor on the amicable relations of his Majesty's Government with foreign Powers, and continues:—"We hope that the expedition to Mexico will procure entire satisfaction for the interests of our countrymen."

"The documents recently communicated to the house prove how greatly the Senate was justified in placing confidence in your Majesty as regards the Italian question."

"Your Majesty's Government, while taking into consideration international exigencies has not lost sight of the interests of Catholicism."

"You will continue, Sir, in your policy of protection and conciliation, as we shall continue to place confidence in that policy."

"You will doubtless experience the regret that we earnestly feel at meeting sometimes with ardour and immature pretensions, and sometimes with resistance and torpidity. But your counsels are those of wisdom, and in the name of this wisdom we must not tire of stating that the greatest works cannot be carried out without calm and moderation in order to become well established, and that causes the most just are sometimes endangered by extreme refusal, which are incompatible with a good direction of human affairs."

The draft of the Address in reply to the Emperor's Speech will be read to-day in the Senate.

AMERICA.

From the *New York Herald* of the 2nd, we gather the following summary of the position of affairs:—

"The heavy deposit of snow on the roads in Virginia will still further delay the movements of the army on the Potomac. The troops were engaged yesterday in clearing their camps of snow, to prevent their tents from being flooded."

"Rumours were busy in Washington yesterday that General Banks would soon assume the charge of the Navy Department, in place of Mr. Welles."

"Ex-Senator Fish and Bishop Ames, the commissioners appointed by Mr. Stanton to visit our prisoners at the South, have completed their arrangements, and have started on their mission."

"The latest report from the Burnside expedition at Hatteras is that the fleet was about to start for its destination. Most of the vessels had gone in the direction of Roanoke Island. A great panic is said to exist in Norfolk and Richmond in regard to the expedition."

"Our intelligence from the South continues to possess much interest. The *Day Book* of the 30th ult. has a long editorial appeal in behalf of the people of Hampton. It says:—'We are pained to learn that the Hampton soldiers are still suffering for want of the essential articles of comfort, and they not only suffer in body but in mind, and their families are suffering privations which none of them had ever seen endured by their slaves.' It also appeals to the Virginians to come forward in this time of need, and supply the suffering rebels with those articles they now so essentially need."

"The prospect of intervention by England and France was being actively canvassed by the New York journals."

NEW YORK, FEB. 4.—In reply to inquiries from the Legislature of the State of Maine, Mr. Seward has stated that he granted permission for the passage of British troops across Maine to sea-

them suffering from a northerly Canadian voyage. Mr. Seward says that no foreign Power inimical to England would complain of the Federal Government extending this comity to England, and that any danger from the permission could only come from direct hostility on the part of England towards the Federal Government. "I will not affect ignorance," continues Mr. Seward, "that popular aspirations have recently appeared in Canada and England which seemed to indicate a growing alienation of sentiment among portions of the British people; but the English Government has during this time held towards the Federal Government its customary language of respect and friendship."

President Lincoln has ordered the removal of privateersmen to Fort Lafayette. Privateersmen will in future be treated as prisoners of war.

In Congress, Mr. Chandler has offered a resolution that the committee on commerce should inquire into the expediency of notifying England that the Canadian reciprocity treaty is not reciprocal, and that it will be terminated at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Chandler's resolution has been referred for further discussion.

The *New York Times* contains a statement that General Scott is going to Mexico on a mission from the Federal Government. The impression is, however, that General Scott proceeds to Key West for the benefit of his health.

NEW YORK, FEB. 6.—The *New York World* states that it is rumored in Washington that the Swedish minister had undertaken to demonstrate to the Federal Government that the blockade is inefficient. Mr. Seward was said to be preparing a reply.

The Secretary of the Treasury has given notice that the holders of coupons of Government Bonds can receive interest in coin. The Senate has referred the Bill for building twenty iron-clad steamers back to the naval committee for modification.

The leading men of Georgia have issued an address to the people of that State, saying that foreign aid is remote, and that the means to resist the intention and resources of the North are unflinching courage and self-sacrifice.

The *New York* press generally argues that a European recognition of the Southern Confederacy appears imminent unless active military movements are inaugurated.

Great suspense continues concerning the inaction and delay in Congress on the legal tender Treasury note Bill. The *New York Times* says that on the 10th of February there will not be a dollar in the Treasury unless the Bill is passed.

A Southern flag of truce has arrived in Washington, the object of which has not transpired.

It is reported from San Francisco that a courier had arrived at Acapulco previous to January 26, with intelligence of the defeat of the Spanish army in a severe battle, lasting five hours, at National Bridge, near Vera Cruz.

NEW YORK, FEB. 6.—Money easy. Exchange firm, at 114 to 115. Gold is quoted at 81 per cent. prem.

WASHINGTON, FEB. 6.—The legal tender clause in the Treasury Bill has been rejected in the House of Representatives by a majority of forty.

THE TUSCARORA AND SUMTER.

The Tuscarora left Gibraltar on the 13th inst., for the Spanish waters of Algeciras. The Sumter was still in harbour.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT LEICESTER.

ONE of the most extensive fires that has occurred in Leicester within memory took place on Monday morning, by which two large manufactories have been burned to the ground. They were the saw mills of Mr. Gibson, Lower Brown-street, and the premises of Mr. Pickard, wool spinner, next to the mills. At about half-past one o'clock fire and smoke were perceived to issue from Mr. Gibson's buildings, by some night-soil-men passing along Welford-road, who gave an alarm. The wood in the saw mills, however, burned with such rapidity, that enormous sheets of flame spread across the street, and, we regret to say, set fire to the buildings of Mr. Pickard, quickly enveloping them in one tremendous conflagration. The engines quickly arrived, but in spite of all their efforts they were only able to confine the fire to the two premises named, and several adjoining houses were greatly endangered. About five or six o'clock the fury of the conflagration seemed to decline, nearly the whole of the interior of the buildings having fallen in, and there being very little left beyond a portion of the bare walls, remains of the machinery, and the smouldering beams. The cause of the fire is not yet ascertained.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT BY MACHINERY.

A most shocking accident has occurred at Birdsall, a Wold village a few miles from Malton. Except in its horrible termination, the accident is precisely similar to the recent one at Sunderland. Mrs. Hudson, the wife of Mr. Hudson, a shopkeeper at Burythorpe, was at Mr. Watson's farm at Birdsall, where a corn-threshing machine was in use. Mrs. Hudson, attempted to step over the "tumbling-shaft," when her dress was caught and instantaneously wrapped several times round the shaft. The machinery was stopped as quickly as possible, and when the unfortunate woman was extricated it was found that her knees were dislocated, and that she had received many wounds and very serious injuries. She is stated to be in a precarious state.

THE CAWNPORE WELL.—A correspondent of the *Lahore Chronicle* describes the present condition of the Cawnpore Well:—"The earth has been raised by a gentle slope round the old mouth of the well to the height of about twelve or fifteen feet, on the summit of which, immediately above the spot where the bodies of those massacred lie, stands the gradually-rising monument. It is now breast-high, completed to the moulding which surmounts the inscription. Standing on the base of the monument and facing the church, the eye alights, on the left, on the cluster of green mounds which at present, with unaltered simplicity, denote the graves of those of the 64th who were killed in action."

GOLD IN NATAL.—Mr. J. J. Jackson, the celebrated No Man's Land adventurer, has arrived in the capital with some mineral substance, on the analysis of which Mr. W. Crowder, of that city, had given a favourable certificate. The mineral is said to have been found in the bed of the Umzimvubu River. The particles of the precious metal are said to have been embedded in a blue clayey substance, and may have been washed down from the Drakensberg. —*Cape and Natal News.*

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ONE SHILLING DAY.—Monday Feb. 17. Admissions on payment, 318; ditto by season tickets, 279; total visitors, 627.

MUSEUM OF PATENTS, SOUTH KENSINGTON.—Number of visitors for the week ending Feb. 15, 4,152; total number since the opening of the museum free daily (12th May, 1858), 481,189.

THE DISTRESS AT THE EAST END.—On Saturday the eastern parts of the metropolis were paraded by large numbers of labourers who were unemployed, and groups of half-finished men were to be seen standing in the district of Whitechapel, seeking alms and stopping the foot passengers. At the several entrances of the docks large gangs of unemployed labourers were to be seen in a wretched state of destitution, and the various workhouses are thronged with poor weavers and others in a state of extreme poverty.

LITERARY AND MUSICAL GOSSIP.

Herr Wagner, according to a report fresh from Germany, is writing a comic opera—words and music.

M. Sainton's four *soirees* will commence on the 4th of next month; the Philharmonic Concerts on the 11th, and the concerts of Messrs. Kündworth and Blagrove on the 12th.

It is possible (says the *Athenaeum*) that the Bradford Festival will not be held this year, provincial managers (so runs the reason given) being made cautious, by apprehensions of the monopolizing interests of the Great Exhibition.

In the last number of the *Stern Zeitung* of Berlin appears a translation of Tennyson's dedication to the late Prince Consort. The original is rendered with a warmth and felicity that do credit to the poet who has attempted so difficult a performance.

It is stated that Mr. Millais has in hand three pictures for the Royal Academy this year. One is to be the parable of the woman who lost the piece of silver and diligently sought for it until it was found. Another (very large), Polonius giving his paternal lecture to Laertes before the latter's departure for Paris. The third will be entitled "The Ransom."

We understand that M. Fechter appears on the 24th as *Ingo*. About Easter he will play the principal character in a new and original drama written by him in conjunction with Mr. Edmund Yates.

A new novel, entitled "The Country Gentleman," by "Scraton," the author of "Recollections of a Fox-hunter," &c., is announced for immediate appearance by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett.

The anniversary meeting of the Geological Society will be held at the society's apartments, Somerset House, on the 21st instant. The annual dinner will take place the same evening, at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's.

Messrs. Saunders, Otley, and Co. have just issued a work, the publication of which has long been looked forward to both in London and Paris. The title of the work is "Madame de Stael and the Grand Duchess Louise: a selection from the unpublished correspondence of Madame de Stael and the Grand Duchess Louise and Saxe-Weimar from 1800 to 1817, together with a letter to Bonaparte, First Consul, and another to Napoleon, Emperor."

A Genoa letter says:—"M. Alexandre Dumas, sen., has just passed through this place on his way to Turin. The celebrated novelist is going there to request of M. Ricassoli the necessary authorization for making researches in the archives of the Bianchi, a religious fraternity, who, under the Bourbon Government, used to attend political prisoners under sentence of death. He expects to find therein much valuable information for his history of the Neapolitan Bourbons, which he is now preparing for publication."

Mendelssohn's "Lobesang" and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" will be performed, on the 28th instant, by the members of the Sacred Harmonic Society; Mdle. Titiens, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Belletti being the principal vocalists.

LIFE'S DUTY.

I HAVE done at length with dreaming—
Henceforth, oh thou soul of mine,
Thou must take up sword and gauntlet,
Waging warfare most divine.
Oh how many a glorious record
Had the angels of me kept,
Had I done instead of doubted,
Had I warred instead of wept!
I have awakened to my duty.
To a knowledge strong and deep,
That I recked not of aforesight
In my long unglorious sleep!
In this subtle sense of being
Newly stirred in every vein;
I can feel a throbbing electric
Pleasure half allied to pain.
'Tis so glorious to be conscious
Of a growing power within,
Stronger than the rallying forces
Of a charged and marshalled sin,
Never in these old romances,
Felt I half the sense of life
That I feel within me stirring,
Standing in the place of strife.
Oh those old days of dalliance
When I waned with my fate,
When I trifled with a knowledge
That had well-nigh come too late.
Yet, my soul, look not behind thee;
Thou hast work to do at last:
Let the brave toil of the present
O'erarch the crumbled past.
Build thy great acts high and higher—
Build them on the conquered sod,
Where thy weakness first felt bleeding,
And thy first prayer rose to God.

The liability of railways to keep open their warehouses and luggage-rooms on Sundays was raised on Saturday before Mr. Justice Blackburn. A gentleman left his luggage at the Great Western on the Saturday, and required it on Sunday to proceed by the Great Northern. The luggage-room was locked, and no one was in attendance, and the time lost in finding the station-master and obtaining his luggage caused him to lose the train. Hence he raised his action. The judge reserved the point of Sunday for the full court, but the jury awarded plaintiff 40s. damages for the delay.

The bankrupt Laurence, in the notorious case of Laurence, Mortimore, and Shinder, the great leather dealers, have been released from prison.

BUILDING ON ST. GILES'S CEMETERY.—On Monday night a large public meeting was held at the Vestry-hall, Camden-hall, to consider an application that has been made to Parliament for an act to vest the cemetery of St. Giles-in-the-Fields in the rector of the parish as glebe land—a step which is alleged to be only preliminary to enable him to appropriate it to building purposes. The senior churchwarden occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by several of the parishioners and by the members for Marylebone, Lord Ferny and Mr. Harvey Lewis; and resolutions against the scheme and a petition to Parliament embodying those views were unanimously adopted.

POACHING AFFRAY.—A desperate poaching affray occurred on Friday morning last, between one and two o'clock, on the preserves of the Earl of Chesterfield, at Bingham, Nottinghamshire. At the time in question it appears that a gang of poachers, seven in number, were out armed with bludgeons and stones and other weapons for the taking of game, when they were encountered by a body of keepers. A severe struggle commenced, and some of the poachers were seriously injured. The fight lasted for some time, and ultimately two of the poachers were captured. The remainder of the gang got clear away.

VARIETIES.

THE DISTRESS IN BLACKBURN.—The distress in this town and district is very great, upwards of 7,000 of the factory operatives of Blackburn alone being wholly unemployed, while a decided change for the worse is taking place in the adjoining townships of Darwen, Ayrton, Church, Enfield, and Great Harwood.

CLEVER ESCAPE FROM DUNGEON PRISON.—On Friday evening, a young man, named Peter Simpson, a deserter from the 7th Regiment, escaped in a most amusing and marvellous manner from Dun-goe. It appears that Governor Redpath, on entering the cell of the prisoner, had no sooner got within the door than Simpson immediately made his exit, and quickly closing the door upon his gaoler, locked him quietly up in his place, and rapidly made his escape. Owing to the other apartments of the prison being somewhat distant, some time elapsed before the gaoler could make his wife hear his cries, and when she did make her appearance it was impossible to render assistance, as Simpson had taken the precaution, after locking up his gaoler, to carry off the key with him, and some hours elapsed before Redpath could be got out. The police are now making strenuous efforts for the recapture of Simpson.

FEARFUL OCCURRENCE ON BOARD SHIP, AT QUEENSTOWN.—It appears that on Thursday evening an angry discussion arose between Captain Rowlands, of the *Manners* steamer, and his son, the father upbraiding the other because of his intention of forming a marriage with a barmaid in a local hotel. The son it is said became exasperated, and a fight ensued, which ended in the captain receiving a bullet wound in the head, the ball having passed through the left temple. The son, seeing the old man fall and bleed profusely, became alarmed, jumped overboard, and swam to the nearest vessel, where he obtained means of communicating with the shore in order to obtain medical aid. Ultimately, Dr. Scott was in attendance, and dressed the wound, which it is thought will not prove fatal. Shortly after the affair became known to the constabulary, and a party of six men proceeded under command of head-constable Turner to the ship, when the mate was arrested, and then committed to prison upon an information. A prosecution will be avoided, it is said, if practicable. The wounded man now lies in a hopeful state, but is still in some danger. —*Cork Examiner.*

We (*Mining Journal*) hear that Messrs. Brassey and Co., the eminent contractors, have purchased an extensive piece of land at Tipton, Derbyshire, for the purpose of establishing large ironworks. They have also in contemplation the erection of a temporary line from the works to the main line of the Midland, so as to have a complete exit for their mineral produce. From all we hear, it is likely to be a second Staveley.

As the Crystal Palace is to be devoted to the arts as well as manufactures, which was not the case to any great extent in 1851, there will be immense galleries for the exhibition of paintings, &c.—one in front of the building, 1,152 feet long, and 55 feet wide, the other, a portion of the main building, 800 feet in length, and 665 feet wide.

CHARITY.—A lady voluntarily offered to collect subscriptions in Chesterfield for the sufferers at New Hartley, limiting the individual gifts to 6d. each. The amount collected in this unostentatious way has been £20. A further sum could, we believe, be readily obtained, but the benevolence of the nation has rendered it unnecessary.

One of the subscription lists to the Hartley Colliery accident proves how much may be done by a little painstaking. The pupils of Miss Maclaren, in Fenchurch-street, anxious to aid the bereaved families, made a collection (in halfpennies) of 421 12s. 8d.

MR. WHITE, the shipbuilder, of Cowes, in the Isle of Wight, has received an order for twenty lifeboats, cutters, and gigs for the West Coast of Africa, each cutter to be capable of carrying one gun and ammunition; also an order for three additional lifeboats for Government pilots at Portsmouth, Plymouth, and Sheerness.

THE GOOD WIFE.—She commandeth her husband in any equal matter, by constantly obeying him. She never crosseth her husband in the springtime of his anger, but stays till it is ebbing water. Her clothes are rather comely than costly, and she maketh plain cloth to be velvet in her handsome wearing it.

HEAT not a furnace for thy foe so hot that it do singe thyself.

A SHOEMAKER has one great advantage over most kinds of mechanics—his goods, whenever finished, are always *soft*.

"Mr. D—, if you will get my coat done by next Saturday, shall be for ever indebted to you." "It won't be done," said the tailor "upon such terms."

The boy who lost his balance on the roof found it on the ground shortly afterwards.

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL OFFICE, IRELAND.—The Commissioners of National Education are about to nominate four candidates to compete for one vacant place in the class of sub-inspectors of national schools. None but members of the Roman Catholic Church are eligible to compete for this vacancy. The examinations will be held in Dublin, under the direction of the Civil Service Commissioners. —*Civil Service Gazette.*

THE MURDER AT ROCHEDALE.—DEATH OF MRS. ISOTT.—The unfortunate woman who was shot by her husband, in Rochdale, expired on Sunday morning, about seven o'clock.

THE LOST LADY.—In reference to this extraordinary affair, the "Leeds Mercury" of Tuesday publishes the following:—"Just before going to press we learn that the particulars of the manner in which Mrs. Buxton was discovered are wholly incorrect. The lady is now in Leeds, with her husband and friends. She states that she was taken on the 22nd of January, to Bursbury, when in a state of insensibility, arising, she believes, from severe sea-sickness, and the fatigue consequent upon a long journey. How the diamond ring and the article of lady's clothing got to the place where they were found she has no knowledge. At Bursbury she remained for many days in a state of unconsciousness from a severe attack of fever, and on examining her luggage on her recovery she missed her watch, jewellery, and other valuables, but had no knowledge when and how they were abstracted from her boxes. As soon as she recovered, a letter was sent to Leeds to inform her friends where she was located, but the letter, from misdirection, or some other cause, never reached its destination, and hence the mystery in which the case has been involved."

THE FORGERIES BY A DERBY SOLICITOR.—At the Derby police-court, on Monday, Joseph Shaw, solicitor, Derby, and until recently the high bailiff of the Derby county court, was brought up on remand on a charge of forging a deed by which he obtained £250 from Mr. John Adsett, of Darfield. Some further evidence was taken in support of this charge, when the bench adjourned the inquiry until Saturday (this day), on which occasion a second charge of a similar nature will be gone into.

A FRIGHTFUL DEATH.—A few nights ago, a man named William Berwick, otherwise well known by the sobriquet of "His Majesty," came to a fearful death under the following circumstances:—On the night of Sunday he had been with others at the house of Mr. Bradnock, the White Hart, at Tile-cross. He remained there until about eleven o'clock, and the house was closed. Berwick, who was a single man, about fifty years of age, of unsocial habits, generally slept at his sister's, but from some cause he had expressed his determination not to go there that night, and on his leaving the White Hart nothing more was seen of him until the next morning. Mr. Bradnock, in addition to being a licensed victualler, carries on a very extensive baking business, and has a large oven on his premises. Early on Monday morning, he had prepared wood for heating the oven, and on his proceeding to place it in the fire or stove, he was startled at seeing the body of a man therein, and on his gaining assistance and making a nearer inspection, he was horrified at finding the dead body of Berwick. From the body having been found stuck fast in the flue of the oven, it was supposed that on his leaving the house, the unhappy man had gone to the flue—which had been used on the previous day—for warmth, and on his endeavouring to get into it had got fast, and was literally suffocated. Mr. Poole subsequently held an inquest on the body, and the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death from suffocation in the flue."

THE EXHIBITION OF 1862.

As the important period of opening the Great Exhibition draws near, public interest is daily being increasingly manifested. Last week, an important ceremony took place at the Exhibition building, when the galleries were thoroughly tested by a body of workmen, five hundred strong, who marched along them in a solid mass. The experiment was perfectly satisfactory.

The building is not by any means finished, although it has been formally delivered by the contractors to the commissioners. The two domes have been the chief structural difficulty in the way of the contractors. Some three or four thousand workmen, from dawn to sunset, and several hundreds by gaslight, still pursue their labours in various parts of this extraordinary pile of buildings. Some are glazing the eastern dome and covering it with zinc, others are still engaged in riveting the purlins and ribs of the western dome and in fixing the golden finial on its summit, others in replacing the felt roofing with zinc. In connexion with these domes, carpenters, iron-fitters and riveters, and glaziers, painters, and plasterers, will find abundant work for the next two months. The dome now stands unsupported by any wedges or blocks, and rests exclusively on the supports of its iron columns and groined girders.

The whole of the upright supports will be the same pale bronze.

The capitals of the columns will be blue and gold and red and gold, the colours alternating so as to be in harmony with the decoration of the ribs of the roof which they support. The intermediate portions will be coloured in accordance with the caps. The arched principals or ribs, which are polygonal in form, are decorated so as to show the construction. The face of the ribs is divided into a number of parts or panels, which are painted alternately red and blue, and on the centre of each is the name of one of the countries or colonies represented in the Exhibition. These panels are so arranged that if the order of colours on one of the ribs is red, blue, and red, the next will be blue, red, and blue, each one varying to this extent from its neighbour. The effect of this when seen throughout the entire length of the nave will be very agreeable. With the view of giving a due appearance of breadth to these girders, their mode of construction is shown by the decorations adopted. The arched principals are formed of three planks nailed over each other. Each of these portions are painted in different colours, and a chequered appearance is given by the use of black and white on the edges. The blue and red panels on the ribs are decorated with light-coloured ornament. The springing of the arches will be slightly relieved with gold, in accord with the capitals of the columns. The ceiling is a light warm grey, a colour adopted for the purpose of giving an appearance of height to the nave. Scroll ornaments, in maroon colour, run from the base to the ridges, which are strongly marked with black and white chevrons. The gallery railings along each side of the nave are formed in sections; the rose, shamrock, and thistle being in the centre compartment. These will be of pale bronze, slightly relieved with gold, which will be thrown up by a background of red cloth. The roof of the courts are of a light colour, slightly relieved by blue and red, the supporting columns being of bronze with blue, and red capitals. The walls are a maroon colour, and the arches of brick are painted in light stone colour. In the picture galleries the colour selected is a sage green. The annexes for the machinery are being painted, under the direction of Captain Powke, grey and stone colour. Although the painting is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, it is not likely that the whole will be completed and the scaffolding removed before the latter end of March or beginning of April.

The official literature of the Exhibition is in a forward state of preparation. The "Illustrated Catalogue" is a work got up in a utilitarian spirit for the benefit of the exhibitors, and it will be a lasting and substantial record of the Exhibition.

The "Illustrated Catalogue" of the former display—brought out in a lump at the close of 1851—ran to four volumes of about 600 pages each. The cost of the wood-cuts was about £6,600 sterling, and of this the contractors, Messrs. Spicer and Clowes, furnished £5,300, the exhibitors finding the other £1,300. The "Illustrated Catalogue" of the present Exhibition will finally reach two large volumes of 700 pages each, and the exhibitors this time will pay for wood-cuts at least £1,000. All the important trading and manufacturing firms have secured pages, and the volumes will be particularly rich in illustrations of machines.

The historical and descriptive introduction to this catalogue, written and prepared by Mr. John Hollingshead, will form a separate part, printed on tinted paper, with about fifty illustrations on steel and wood. The pure advertising sheets in each of the parts are being let at ten pounds for an inner page, twenty-five pounds for a page near the type, or for the last page, and fifty pounds for the back cover.

The shilling or general catalogue is being gradually built up under the superintendence of Mr. Sydney Williams, the well-known author of many popular imaginative and philosophical works. The "editing" of this volume is drudgery unknown. Wonderful specimens of French and German English are constantly dropping in, and the names and addresses of exhibitors, with the briefest possible description of articles to be exhibited (all confined by official command to sixteen words) are not always very easy to read. The written words supposed to be "glass, china, and crystal," were so read, and placed in class 34, but were ultimately translated into "glace, chine, and cristallise," referring to silk goods in class 20.

The official additions which we have to record are not numerous. Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., who in 1851 was the special commissioner in charge of the jury department, has accepted the same office for

the present Exhibition; and Lord Taunton has accepted the chairmanship of the council of juries.

A diplomatic communication from Russia promises a valuable collection of works in mosaic, marbles, "petra-dura," paintings on china from the imperial factory, and glass, plain, coloured, and jewelled. Most of the articles are luxurious and ornamental rather than useful, but they are of rare execution, value, and beauty. Two colossal china vases are amongst the collection, on which have been copied, in large size, a picture of Inigo Jones, from the original painting by Vandyke, and a picture of John Locke, from the original painting.

The arrival of goods in the Colonial department includes a large quantity from Western Africa. The Liberian republic sends a lot of valuable woods, cotton, and ivory. A large collection has also arrived from Dr. Baikie, R.N., from Central Africa, amongst which are some interesting specimens of native cloths, matting, cotton, and dyed stuffs. The Abeokuta Commercial Association have sent five cases of African produce and manufactures. Abeokuta is the centre of the African cotton trade—now in its infancy—and this collection will be very interesting.

The Bahamas have sent us a fine collection of native woods, fibres, cordage, native plants, cotton grown in the islands, tortoise-shells and sponges, ornamental shell-work, and plaited Palmetto hats.



A SUMMER DAY'S RETREAT.

Calme was the day, and through the trembling eye,
Sweet breathing Zephyrus did softly play,
A gentle spirit, that softly did delay
Hot Titan's beams, which then did glisten fair.
Along the shore of silver-streaming Themis,
There, in a meadow, by the river's side,

A flock of nymphs I chanced to espy,
All lovely Daughters of the Flood thereby,
With goodlie greenish locks of loose undyde
As each had been a bride,
And each one had a little wicker basket,
Made of the twigs entangled curiously,
In which they gathered flowers."

SPENSER.

Newfoundland has forwarded a large cargo of minerals and agricultural produce, with some valuable fox, otter, beaver, and other skins, some of them worth twenty-five pounds each. There are also some stuffed birds, otters, hares, and birds from the National Museum.

Prince Edward's Island sends a large birch canoe, and about fifty cases containing specimens of agricultural implements and agricultural produce.

Nova Scotia, possessing vast coal fields, has sent a section of a coal seam thirty feet high, and weighing five or six tons. It has also sent a collection of furniture, carriages, pianos, minerals, and building stones.

New Brunswick has forwarded a large cargo, amongst which are a fine set of agricultural implements, edge-tools, woodmen's axes, and circular saws; models of snow ploughs, sleighs, and railway carriages; furs, beaver and bear skins; and some models of ships, as the province is celebrated for good ship-building.

Here will be exhibited the choicest works of the present masters, both English and foreign. Paintings, illustrative of the poets, with all the imaginative beauty in which the painter loves to revel, similar to the above engraving of "A Summer Day's Retreat," will afford additional attraction to visitors as well as add grace and importance to this particular department.

THE GOLD-FIELDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

[From the Sydney Morning Herald of Dec. 22.]

THE brilliant anticipations in regard to the success of the Lachlan gold-fields have not, we regret to say, been realized; and thus disappointment has been encountered, and heavy expenses have been incurred by very many but ill able to bear the latter, however much they may have become habituated to the former. All accounts agree as to the yield being extraordinary—equal to that of Ballarat in its palmiest days; but the payable ground is confined only to a very small area, being not more than a quarter of a mile long and 100 yards wide. This piece of ground is held by some 300 miners, who, out of the whole population of 6,000 or 7,000 persons, are the only persons who are making anything.

The greater part of those diggers who left Burrangong for the Fachlan have now returned. The result of the temporary cessation from toil has been that work has been renewed on all sides with more than the usual activity. New ground has been opened in one or two places, and very promising results have been obtained by those who have bottomed their holes. In addition to the old hands who have returned here, a very large number of Victorian miners, who, tempted by the accounts respecting the Lachlan, had visited that field, have now set in upon the Burrangong; while the Chinese are concentrating upon this point from every quarter of the country, in such numbers that it is anticipated by some that there will be at least 10,000 of them assembled here before the close of the summer.

The Braidwood diggings have been rather dull during the month. The long-continued draught has operated unfavourably in many places. At the same time, it has been favourable to the wet diggings, which for many months past could not be worked on account of the water. The miner has now a chance at these, of which he is not slow to avail himself; and in such spots there is some activity.

THE WESTERN GOLD-FIELDS.—Immense excitement and dismay were created here at the beginning of the month, by the sudden loss of the lead, or course taken by the gold. At first every one was in despair, and the commissioner for a time dreaded the effect that the news would have on the excitable minds of the miners. Luckily, however, before matters came to the worst, it was picked up again at the southern end, where it had broken off short, and then made so sudden a turn as to throw its followers completely off the trail. We have said that the area of the payable ground is only small, and that upon this some 300 persons only have claims. These claims are so rich that they are reckoned to be worth from £4,000 to £6,000 each. But, while individuals are making such large sums, thousands are walking about doing nothing, looking with rueful faces at the rich pans of earths brought up from the 'jeweller's shops,' but unable to earn a pennyweight for themselves. Several attempts have been made to discover shallow diggings and surfacing; but, though gold has been obtained, it has been only in such quantities as barely to furnish 'tucker,' meaning, in digger parlance, sufficient to furnish the means of living. Although the lead has been discovered at the southern end, it is not so extensive as the main lead, while as yet it has not been picked up at the northern end. Thus, even as regards those on the supposed line of the lead, all is uncertainty. On the south it may break off at any moment and leave, while on the north it is all a lottery, and twenty holes may be sunk, and still the lost lead may not be struck. If with this uncertainty be joined the fact that to sink a hole 120 or 130 feet deep, to slab it down for more than half the distance, and to clear it of water, requires an outlay of from £100 to £150, besides the labour of the party, it will be seen that the prospect is not the most encouraging. And yet the hard, struggling, persevering digger sinks and sinks, despite every discouragement, until when his last shilling is gone, he is obliged to clear out to accumulate by the toil of months sufficient to enable him to have another 'go in' at some new rush, perhaps to be again disappointed, perchance to realize his long-cherished expectations, and to make his pile. From the other western diggings the only items of intelligence are the continued migration of the Chinese from all parts, en route towards Lambing Flat, and the opening up of some payable ground in the immediate neighbourhood of Mudgee, at Cudgegong, and Carwell.

THE NORTHERN GOLDFIELDS.—The miners of the Hanging-rock and Peel River still complain of the want of water; and, owing to this scarcity, there is but little work being done, except in the bed claims of river. New auriferous ground is still being occasionally opened on the heads of the Clarence and the table land, but in no instance has anything more than wages been made out of it. The whole country seems to be one vast gold-field, but the precious metal is so generally diffused as to offer to the regular digger no temptation to set in for what it is his constant expectation of obtaining—a heavy find.

RELIGION AND DIVORCEMENT IN SWITZERLAND.—The Swiss Federal Assembly, before closing its session, voted a law, authorising the divorce of couples belonging to different religious professions. In spite of the protests of the Swiss episcopacy, the law was voted after having undergone a modification which renders it still more annoying for the Roman Catholics; for while the project of the Federal Council maintained the principle of the indissolubility of Catholic marriages, the National Assembly has suppressed that reserve, and decided that the cantonal legislatures are authorised to permit a divorced Catholic husband to remarry during the lifetime of his Protestant wife, and vice versa.

THE CURFEW, OR COUVRE-FEU.

THE introduction of the curfew-bell by William the Conqueror has long been the general supposition. It is true, that by one of his laws he ordered the people to put out their fires and lights, and go to bed at the eight o'clock curfew-bell; but Henry says, in his "History of Great Britain," that there is sufficient evidence of the curfew having prevailed in different parts of Europe at that period, as a precaution against fires, which were frequent and fatal, when so many houses were built of wood. It is related, too, in Peshall's "History of Oxford," that Alfred the Great ordered the inhabitants of that city to cover their fires on the ringing of the bell at Carfax every night at eight o'clock.

The couvre-feu (of which we give an illustration below), formerly in the collection of the Rev. Mr. Gostling, and so often engraved, passed into the possession of Horace Walpole, and was sold at Strawberry-hill, in 1842, to Mr. William Knight. It is of copper, riveted together, and in general form resembles the "Dutch-oven" of the present day. It is stated to have been used for extinguishing a fire, by raking the wood and embers to the back of the hearth, and then placing the open part of the couvre-feu close against the back of the chimney. In February, 1842, Mr. Syer Cumming purchased of a curiosity-dealer in Chancery-lane a couvre-feu closely resembling Mr. Gostling's; and Mr. Cumming considers both specimens to be of the same age, of the close of the fifteenth or early part of the sixteenth century; whereas Mr. Gostling's specimen was stated to be of the Norman period. A third example of the couvre-feu exists in the Canterbury Museum.

Although the couvre-feu law was abolished by Henry I., who restored the use of lamps and candles at night after the ringing of the curfew-bell, which had been prohibited by his predecessors, yet the custom of ringing the bell long continued; and in certain parishes of the metropolis, and in some parts of the country, to the present time.

"The curfew tolls the knell of parting day."

' Among the charges directed for the wardmote inquests of London, in the second mayoralty of Sir Henry Colet (A.D. 1495) it is said, "Also yf there be anye paryshe clerke that ringeth curfew after the curfew be ronge at Bowe Church, or Saint Brydes Church, or Saint Gyles without Cripelgat, all such to be presented."



SCENE NEAR MANTUA.

SCENE NEAR MANTUA.

THE vicinity of Mantua, of which we give an illustration, abounds in magnificent scenery; but along the banks of the Po, and near the Adriatic, where are the principal rice grounds, the climate is far from healthy. The tops of the Alps are bare, covered with snow, and interspersed with glaciers; but their sides are for the most part covered with fir, larch, oak, pine, chestnut, and other trees, or natural pasturages. The plain country is continuously cultivated, and is one of the most productive portions of Europe; yet the inhabitants, though industrious, are mostly poor. The productive land in the mountains consists of pastures. Only the lower part of the mountain belt is arable; the land is there frequently cut into terraces, one above another, the divisions being occasionally supported by stone walls. The earth that fills these terrace-trenches is continually carried down to the lower levels by the action of rain and other causes, and has to be brought up again every two or three years, often on peasants' backs, the routes being impracticable for vehicles. The vine, chestnut, mulberry, walnut, and various other fruit trees, barley, rye, a little wheat, buckwheat, millet, kitchen vegetables, hemp and flax, are the chief products of this region. The land is here divided into the most minute portions; and being, as it were, the one thing needful to existence, the greatest value is attached to its possession. The inheritance of an individual is often only a few square yards of land; and on the lake of Garda, a similar extent of surface, cultivated with lemons or oranges, or the laurel (for its oil), serves to maintain a family. In the central region, or hill country, properties are less divided, though they are there split into small stewardships, worth from 15,000 to 20,000 francs. These farms are mostly the property of the higher classes, and of the inhabitants of cities. There is scarcely a single peasant proprietor, the peasantry being mere tenants, paying, in general, a rent of half the produce.

Mantua itself is of very ancient origin, her foundation being probably antecedent to that of Rome. She derives her principal celebrity from her being the native country of Virgil, that great poet having been born in her immediate vicinity, anno 70, B.C. After the conquest of Northern Italy by Charlemagne Mantua became a republic, and continued so till the 12th century. Her fortifications, though not imposing, are very strong.

The curfew-bell, strictly as such, had probably fallen into disuse previous to the time of Shakspeare, who, in "Romeo and Juliet," applies the term to the morning bell:—



THE CURFEW.

Knight's "Life of Dean Colet," p. 6.) The same charge remained in the wardmote inquest, 1649.

At St. Peter's Hospital, Newington (the Fishmongers' Almshouses, taken down in 1851), there is a bell rung every evening from eight o'clock till nine, which the old parishioners were wont to denominate the couvre-feu; but it is now said that this is rung to warn all strangers from the premises, and the almspeople to their several apartments.

The curfew was not always rung at eight o'clock, for the sexton, in the old play of the "Merry Devil of Edmonton" (4to., 1631), says:—

"Well, 'tis nine a cloke, 'tis time to ring curfew."

"The second cock hath crow'd.
The curfew-bell has rung, 'tis three o'clock."

At Charterhouse, the chapel bell is rung eight and nine, to warn the absent pensioner of the approaching hour.

"There is one peculiarity attached to the ringing, which is calculated to serve the office of the ordinary passing-bell; and that is the number of strokes, which must correspond with the number of pensioners. So that, when a brother pensioner has deceased, his companions are informed of their loss by one stroke of the bell less than on the preceding evening."—*Chronicles of Charterhouse*, page 180.

A FRENCH SWINDLING TRICK. — The *Gironde* of Bordeaux states that a respectable tradesman of that city was cheated last week by the following trick. He had set a looking-glass outside the shop door for sale, when a fashionably-dressed man stopped to look at himself in it. As he stood thus occupied, with his walking-stick under his arm, a person passing behind came in contact with the stick, and drove it with such violence against the glass as to shiver it to atoms. The apparently innocent cause of this accident immediately offered to pay the value of the glass, which was 50*fr.*, and handed the tradesman a 1,000*fr.* note. After receiving the change he took his departure, and soon afterwards the tradesman made the unpleasant discovery that the note was a forged one.

THE COURT.

The Queen remains in retirement at Osborne.
Her Majesty is expected to come to London at the close of this month.

The Crown Princess, Princess Alice, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, and Princess Hohenzollern, attended Divine Service at Whiphham Church on Sunday morning. The Rev. G. Prothero officiated.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—It appears that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has concluded the purchase of the Sandringham estate, near Ipswich, Norfolk.

ARMY, NAVY, AND VOLUNTEERS.

The New Tavern Fort, opposite the Thames at Gravesend, having recently been supplied with a complete battery of Armstrong guns in lieu of the previous smooth bore battery, the War Department has ordered a similar change to be made at Tilbury Fort, Essex. The two batteries named will have a complete command of the river at the same point.

It appears by letters received at Woolwich from men of the 10th Brigade Royal Artillery, who proceeded to New Brunswick in December last on board the steam-ship *Adriatic*, that the troops, on disembarking at St. John's, were welcomed with the utmost kindness by the population, and the Royal Artillery were invited to a sumptuous repast provided by the members of the Wesleyan Church.

The iron frigate, *Defence*, 18, Captain Powell, C.B., having completed coaling at the depot ship in Saltpan Reach has been removed to moorings in Sheerness Harbour.

On the recommendation of Captain Buckle, superintendent of the Royal Victoria Dock and Victualing Yards, Deptford, the Admiralty has awarded gratuities for exertion in the erection of twelve large spirit vats and rum stores to the following artisans, viz.—J. Mackney, Engineer, F. Langford, carpenter, and also to D. Hogan, foreman of labourers.

The 3rd Anglesey Rifle Volunteer Corps has been struck off the records of the War-office, and will cease to hold any place in the volunteer force of Anglesey.

THE EASTER VOLUNTEER REVIEW.—We learn from excellent authority that the long-projected volunteer review at Brighton on Easter-Monday is likely to turn out a *coup main*. The General Commanding-in-Chief has, we learn, prohibited the metropolitan corps from attending, except under the command of a general officer; and so indignant are a certain distinguished volunteer commandant and his men at this determination, that they not only refuse to subscribe, but threaten to resign *en masse*.—*United Service Gazette*.

THE ENGLAND ELEVEN IN AUSTRALIA.

By the arrival of the late Australian mail we received news of the landing of the England Eleven at Melbourne. From a private correspondent we receive the following particulars:—

“Emerald Hill, Melbourne, Dec. 25, 1861.

“We are going to have very grand doings here with the English cricketers. The Great Britain arrived yesterday with them, and a number of gentlemen connected with the game of cricket went on board to welcome them. A vast number of people on the line of road assembled for a like purpose; in fact the road was completely thronged, and they were loudly cheered on the way. At Sandridge a triumphal arch was erected, and a carriage with eight cream-coloured horses was provided for the cricketers to convey them to Melbourne. It seemed a perfect holiday; the ships in the bay had their flags flying, and on the road many of the shops were also decorated. The first match commences on New Year's-day, and the utmost enthusiasm prevails. The volunteer encampment has been put off until Easter, in order that it shall not interfere with the number of people that might attend the match. A great deal more is thought of them here than in England. The price of admission to the ground on the first day is announced to be £1.”

The English cricketers took up their abode at the Princess's Hotel, and a grand banquet was to be given to them by Messrs. Spiers and Pond, the promoters of the intercolonial matches. Much praise was awarded to Mr. Mallam, the agent who negotiated the matches. Soon after their arrival the “Eleven” took a stroll to the Melbourne cricket ground to have a look at the wickets. They also had a little practice, much to the delight of the spectators. The names of the Eleven are as follow:—Bennett, W. Caftyn, T. Hearne, Addison, Laurence, Griffith, W. Mudie, W. Mortlock, T. Sewell, H. H. Stephenson (Surrey), and E. Stephenson (Yorkshire). H. H. Stephenson is the captain. Upon being welcomed on their arrival by Mr. Rusden, of the Melbourne committee, H. H. Stephenson replied in a short and pithy speech, concluding with, “We hope to merit your kind reception by giving you a good beating.” G. Wells, of Sussex, who will probably play with the Eleven, but had arrived some weeks previous, was among the first to welcome his brother cricketers. He intends to make a permanent stay.

MANNERS.—The great charm about well-mannered people is, that they insensibly make us pleased with ourselves. The courteous spirit is always a ruling one. Some inherit politeness, some acquire it, and some have it thrust upon them. Society does the latter. Those to whom it is unnatural—whether men, women, or children—find that unless a certain civility is maintained, their selfish purposes cannot be served; hence, to gain their own ends, they will put on the semblance of politeness—a semblance which will be shattered the moment they have no further need. It is essentially this class who are the disagreeable people. Etiquette with them usurps the place of a higher constituent; hence formal people never sympathize with those whose politeness springs from the heart. Etiquette is undoubtedly necessary to be observed in form, but not formality; though no fixed rules of conduct can be laid down for the familiar intercourse of individuals beyond the Scriptural one:—“In honour preferring one another.” This advice may be followed all the world over, however variable the code of etiquette may be for each country.—*Ladies' Treasury*.

THE SEXAGENARIANS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The following members (sixty-two in number) claim to be wholly excused from serving on election committees, on account of being more than sixty years old:—Mr. T. Acland, General Arbuthnot, Messrs. E. Ball, W. H. Burrow, Col. Bernard, Messrs. T. T. Bernard, A. Black, P. P. Bouvier, T. W. Beaumont, J. I. Briscoe, J. Bruckhurst, B. Brooks, Major Bruce, General Buckley, Captain Bunbury, Messrs. M. De Courcy, W. Deedes, E. Divett, Sir D. Dundas, Mr. E. Elliot, Sir E. Lally Evans, Messrs. W. J. Fox, G. C. Glyn, S. Gregson, C. G. Grenfell, B. Gordon, G. Hadfield, T. C. Halliburton, Sir W. G. Haylor, Sir W. Heathcote, Messrs. J. W. Henley, R. Ingham, J. J. H. Johnstone, J. Kershaw, Sir H. Leake, Mr. W. Long, Colonel Lowther, Messrs. W. Lysley, J. McCann, W. Marshall, C. A. Moody, W. Murray, W. Nicol, R. M. O'Ferrall, C. W. Packe, Colonel Packe, Viscount Palmerston, Messrs. D. Pugh, O. Ricardo, D. Robertson, S. P. Scrope, R. A. Slaney, Sir F. Smith, Messrs. R. Spooner, J. Steel, G. Traill, J. A. Turner, Sir W. Verrier, Admiral Walcott, Sir J. Walsh, Messrs. B. McGhie Wilcox and W. B. Wrightson.

HORRIBLE DEATH.—EATEN BY WOLVES.—Letters from Vienna mention that the nephew of Count Degenfeld, Minister of War, had been devoured by wolves. He was returning from hunting in a sledge when he was attacked by two of these animals; he fired on them, and the coachman put his horse to a gallop to escape, but in doing so precipitated the count from the sledge. The coachman was not aware of the accident for some time, and on returning found only the mutilated body of the count.

NOTICE TO PUBLISHERS.

Publishers will much oblige by forwarding to us the titles of forthcoming publications; and any books they may wish noticed should be sent early in the week, addressed to the Editor of the “Illustrated Weekly News,” 12, York-street, Covent Garden, London,” will be noticed in our next.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. C.—In the great fire of 1666, all the combustible parts of the Guildhall were consumed; the walls, however, were of such solidity that they withstood the flames.

ET LITERATIM.—One black ball in ten excludes from the Athenæum Club, Pall Mall.

R. V.—We believe the Nelson monument to be the highest column in the world. It cost nearly £50,000, of which the Emperor of Russia contributed £500.

INQUIRE.—Tarsus is still a city of importance, numbering about 7,000 inhabitants.

PHILOS.—The motto or text in front of the Royal Exchange—“The Earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof”—was selected and suggested by Prince Albert when the design was first shown to him.

KING.—We believe the first chess club in London met at Slaughter's coffee-house, St. Martin's-lane.

J. H.—Astley's theatre has been destroyed three times by fire.

R. M.—The exhibition is free. See our amusement guide.

J. G. B. (Brighton).—Will be noticed in our next.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1862.

The question of National Education is one of serious moment, and one which, in the absence of any great political measure, will necessarily occupy a prominent place in the business of the Session. The urgency of the question, however, is quite equal to its importance. The educational reforms proposed by the Government have not been brought forward a moment too soon. The present system was, as Mr. Lowe reminded the house last week, not only essentially tentative and provisional in its origin and design, but it has retained that character up to the present moment. And features that might be appropriate and useful enough in a merely tentative scheme, may very naturally become a source of weakness and injury if permanently retained. That is precisely what has happened with regard to the existing system of Government aid to education. The original object of the Government grants was to give an impulse to primary instruction, by establishing specimens and models of the right kind of teaching; in a word, by giving it an efficient start in the right direction. Lord Russell, a leading minister of the Crown at the time it was inaugurated, stated distinctly that it was “not intended that the system should pervade the whole country, but that the object was to create models of teaching.” The details of the scheme were accordingly accommodated to this end. The great object being to create models of effective teaching, the first thing to be done was to secure a class of effective teachers. A great proportion of the annual grant was, therefore, given in the form of premiums to certified masters and pupil-teachers. Training colleges were established on an extensive scale, which, though originally the offspring of voluntary enterprise, were soon maintained almost entirely at the public expense. The system of Government inspection proceeded on the same principle, and was directed to the same end—that of securing good teachers and diffusing general types of good teaching. This was all very well for a time, but it is obvious that such a system is essentially provisional, and that to make it permanent would be in fact to sacrifice the main end of effective popular education. The true end of popular education is not to produce teachers, however accomplished, but to furnish primary instruction to the children of the poor. And this is precisely the point which the present system naturally and almost necessarily, from its provisional character and limited aim, so much neglected. The system was accommodated to its main end, that of providing teachers, and, having accomplished this, it is right that its merely provisional features should be done away with, and those changes adopted which are necessary to secure the real end of education—the diffusion of sound instruction amongst the children of the poor. But it seems that this essential change has already become a task of enormous difficulty. From various causes the provisional system has lasted so long, that those who enjoy its benefits, and are directly interested in its continuance, have already forgotten its origin. They denounce any change in the conditions of the Government grants, which are still voted annually, as a breach of faith towards themselves, and meet the proposals for reform with the cry of “vested rights and interests.” It may, no doubt, be said that this is to some extent natural, from the length of time during which the provisional system has been retained without alteration. But, on the other hand, this kind of opposition demonstrates the imperative necessity of reform, and that without a moment's further delay. The new Minute makes no other changes in the existing machinery than are necessary to correct glaring deficiencies, and secure in the most efficient manner and on the widest scale the true ends of education. Perhaps the most important is that relating to infant schools. The children in these schools are not to be examined, the capitation fee being paid simply on attendance; so that, as Mr. Lowe pleasantly said, the children will be to the managers, as well as to their parents, “little treasures.” The change in the age at which the capitation fee will be granted in evening schools, from 13 to 12, is also a very useful, as it is sure to be a very popular one. The training colleges, moreover, are to be maintained—for the present, at all events—on the existing plan. These changes, with a provision for securing the master's salary, by giving him a lien on the capitation grant, are the most important features of the amended code. Slight as they are, they will remove a host of objections, and help to secure the success of a measure which is now as unexceptionable in its details as it was always sound in principle.

MILITARY matters in connexion with America and our volunteers afford scope for observation.

Those who have studied the art of war, and the recent mechanical improvements subsidiary to it, agree that they give increased power to science combined with capital. They also perceive that increased intelligence in the ranks will be required to apply those improvements, some of which are useless in ignorant hands. The

improvements will necessitate also thoroughly good officers for their direction, and the prevalence of greater intelligence in the ranks, howsoever introduced, will also render the improvement of the commanders requisite. This has already become perceptible as a result of the volunteer movement. The educated men who now compose the ranks of the foremost corps, having studied, besides their own duties, the duties of their officers, have become highly critical of the latter. Officers find themselves virtually under the command of severe censors who know as well as themselves what ought to be done, and will inevitably detect any omissions. “Muffs,” whether regular and professional, or irregular and volunteer, are now more speedily detected, and if there were a serious demand for the service of the volunteers, as for an actual war, it may be confidently predicted that a large proportion of the first appointments of officers chosen from mere political patronage, or social position, or interest, or vanity, would, upon better experience and understanding of what is required, be immediately and sternly superseded. Educated men would not endure to have their own lives thrown away and their cause ruined from any complaisance to unfitness, which gains position in the absence of danger, or in the absence of strong motives for scrutiny in time of peace. In the inquiry into the misdirection of the Crimean war it was proved that the loss of life, material, and force was always proportioned to the ignorance and incompetency of the colonels having command of regiments. It was said, by way of apology, that it took three campaigns to obtain an efficient English army. With such education and intelligence as there is now in the volunteer ranks, it may be confidently averred that such a loss of blood, and treasure, and of time, would no longer be endured.

With respect to what is denominated the intellect of the army—the Engineer and the Artillery corps—there can be no doubt that the first effect of the application of the principle of open competition has been to shut out much inferior material for commands, and to provide a higher quality to work upon. We do not now propose to enter upon the evidence as to what remains to be done in that direction. It is sufficient at present to observe that, before we criticise our American kinsmen too sharply for their military shortcomings, we should remember our own—our contracts, our breakdown at Balaklava, our failures of the camp roads, and the first horrible winter before Sebastopol. We are not aware that the Americans have yet brought science to bear upon the war, for time is requisite to them as well as to us to do so. Any new form of implement adopted and scarcely be manufactured on a scale for war in less than a year, and the training of men to use them would require a corresponding period. By due intelligence, however, on the part of our military authorities, there is no doubt that the Whitworth as well as the Armstrong guns might have been brought to bear on the rebels with astonishing effects during the Indian mutiny. There are rising criticisms on the part of the volunteers in America upon the qualifications of the “regulars,” imparted by their common military education, training, and habitual preparation for war during peace, to which we would call attention, as bearing some analogy to the criticisms, not yet in print, but current in speech, amongst our educated volunteers, upon the defective training and untrustworthy character of many of the commands of the “regulars.” The common military mind does not rise in estimation on closer acquaintance. The Engineer and Artillery corps are acknowledged to contain the “intellect of the army;” but it is deemed a proof of default in the practical scientific training of that body that the most important recent improvements in arms should have been resisted by them, and for the most part carried against them by civilians. The volunteers of the Federal States generally make exception in favour of the officers of the engineer corps, but chiefly in favour of those who have had practice in dealing with men, and have shown ability in the conduct of civil works during peace. One ground of confidence in General McClellan is his scientific education as an engineer, and that his ability had been displayed in almost the only way it could be exercised during peace—in civil works, as, for example, in the direction of railways. If the war should continue long, it may be confidently predicted that the intelligence of the native Americans will make itself respected, and give us some useful lessons. They are now beginning to retrieve their first defaults at a pace which will leave us little to reproach them with. The expression which we hear of an intention to “popularize the army,” we apprehend means popularizing it not by any such means as the re-introduction of the electoral element, which it has wisely abandoned, but by the adoption of measures to increase its efficiency by increasing the efficiency of the commands, by tests and examinations, and generally by reforms which will give increased value to military ability by securing to it its fair reward.

THE “ACCIDENT” TO THE ELECTOR OF HESSE CASSEL.—The incident at the Chateau of Cassel, of which only a vague account has been hitherto published, is thus described by the *Berlin Gazette de la Bourse*:—“The Elector surprised his wife reading a number of the *Kladderadatsch*, in which there was an article purporting to comment on the attention shown at a ball by the Prince de Hanau to the daughters of the President of the Chamber of Deputies, and which contained some ironical allusions to the Prince's father. The Elector's anger at this affront gave rise to vigorous reproaches, and finished at last by provoking one of those domestic scenes which usually terminate in cries of ‘Help!’ or ‘Fire!’ from the feeblest party. At length a valet who was in the antechamber thought, for some reason or other, his assistance was wanted, and ran into the room. His sudden appearance was far from agreeable to the Elector, who attempted to show his feelings by a movement which allowed the valet to seize hold of his foot. This act of legitimate defence occasioned an unpleasant fall, and resulted in a rather rude contact between a head, a hand, a table, and a mirror.”

A FOX CAUGHT WITH A FISH-HOOK.—Few persons travelling to the west of Bideford but must have seen or heard something of the sea village of Buckish, six miles from Bideford, and which is also known by sportsmen as the stronghold and favourite resort of foxes; but sportsmen are here completely baffled. Reynard, when hotly pressed, takes to the rocky shore over the cliffs, and on to the beach, and many a chase, from strong necessity, has been thus abandoned. Here reside the family of the Braunds, whose legitimate occupation is catching fish; but they have also taken many a seagull on the shore by a baited fish-hook. It was here, last week that Reynard thought to enjoy a frugal meal, but got completely “gulled,” and swallowed the hook under, no doubt, very painful circumstances. Reynard was taken by the Braunds, and proved to be a fine vixen weighing 14lb. This is a circumstance unheard of we should say, in the line of foxes, since the first happy pair left Noah's ark.—*Western Morning News*.

Home News.

VALENTINE'S DAY.—The delivery of letters within the metropolitan districts on Valentine's-day exceeded by several thousands that of 1861. In order to expedite the delivery extra letter-carriers were employed in each district, where dinners were provided for them after their arduous labours were performed.

A WEALTHY AUCTIONEER.—The will of Samuel Oxenham, Esq., of Chester-terrace, Regent's-park, was proved in the London Court by his son, Henry Oxenham, Esq., the sole executor. The personalty was sworn under £70,000.

RANELAGH YACHT CLUB.—Viscount Ranelagh has been elected honorary member of the above club, and Lieutenant-Colonel Evelyn Comdore, vice Mr. Talfourd, who has retired from ill health. The new commodore brings to the club the advantages of a thorough knowledge of yachting, and his kind consent to become its chief officer, and apply his influence and energy in its service, has been hailed with much gratification by the whole of the members.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.—The commissioners of metropolitan police have commenced the formation of a new division, to be designated the X division, and composed of picked men from the whole force, to be specially employed on duty at the ensuing International Exhibition. Inspector Mackenzie, of the F division, has been appointed to superintend the new division; and a limited number of men are now on duty at the building, who will be reinforced when necessary.

CURIOSITIES OF THE HARTLEY COLLIERY SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The monster schedule of contributions for the benefit of the sufferers by the Hartley Colliery accident contains several entries which may be fairly termed "curiosities." For instance, "The English Language of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem," of which his Grace the Duke of Manchester is "Grand Prior," sends £20; "Collection made by the Citizens and Comic Inoffensibles of the City of Lushington Society, £1 2s. 6d.;" "Imprecable, £16 12s.;" "The Boys at the Reformatory, Brixton, 18s.," is a touching entry; and then we have, "Collection by little Miss Mary Cook, of Hackney-terrace, £2 2s."

MR. CHARLES KEAN.—We understand that, on the 20th of March, Mr. C. Kean will be presented, at the St. James's Hall, with the plate which has been subscribed for by the numerous admirers among his friends and the public. The Duke of Newcastle will preside, which may be accepted as a mark of admiration of Mr. C. Kean's genius as an actor, respect for his upright conduct as a gentleman, and a display of that warm feeling for the brother show-fellow of Eton which is peculiar to the race Etonian. The plate is of the value of 2,000 guineas, and consists of several pieces, chiefly ornamental; among others, one which introduces Eton, also two pieces representing Shakespearian plays in which Mr. C. Kean has won honour. There are also two magnificent candelabra.—*Concert Journal.*

THE WESTMINSTER ABBEY SPECIAL SERVICES.—The special services in the nave of Westminster Abbey will commence on the first Sunday evening in April, and will continue until a later period in the year than usual, in order to accommodate a portion of the large number of visitors to the Exhibition. The sermon will be preached by the Bishop of London. On the next Sunday evening the Bishop of Oxford will preach.

FAILURE OF PUBLIC WASHING-HOUSES.—The Society for Improving the Condition of the Labouring Classes, through their surveyor, Mr. Hammond, have informed the local authorities of St. Andrew, Holborn, and St. George the Martyr, that "the income from the receipts of the society are quite inadequate to meet their liabilities." As to the public washing-houses in Portpool-lane, Gray's-inn-lane (17,321 washers having used them during the year), the average expenses for the two past years have been per annum, £517 11s. 8d.; receipts from washers, £411 11s. 7d.; leaving a loss to the society of £106 0s. 1d. per annum. The average deficiency upon these washing-houses for the last seven years is stated to have been £116 4s. 5d. per annum. Under these circumstances the society has been compelled to offer the premises to the local authorities, or others, for disposal, by purchase or at a rental, but without any satisfactory result.

THE SHIPWRECKED FISHERMEN AND MARINERS' ROYAL BENEVOLENT SOCIETY has forwarded an additional contribution of £150 to the National Life-boat Institution, being the amount gathered from sailors who are members of that society.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.—A supplementary estimate has just been issued of the sums required to provide for the probable excess upon the amount voted for the navy for the reserve of the year 1861-2. The whole estimate amounts to £364,388, being composed of the following sums:—£100,000 for wages of seamen and marines, £29,000 for victuals for seamen and marines, and £234,388 for the "army department," or, in other words, the expenses of transporting troops.

At the suggestion of M. de Golovnine, the new Minister of Public Instruction in Russia, the Emperor Alexander has sanctioned the erection of a new university at Nicolaiev, on the Black Sea.

THE HIGHWAYS BILL.—The preliminary clauses of the Bill for the better management of highways in England define the limits of the Act with regard to county and borough. There are four changes on the formation of highway districts, constitution of highway board, election of waywardens, consequences of formation of highway districts; followed by clauses relating to the appointment of officers, and defining the works and duties of the board for the maintenance of highways, and their protection from encroachment; giving power to make any improvement that may be deemed expedient, or to contract to repair highways within other districts, and to levy rates for defraying expenses on each parish. The Act does not extend to Scotland or Ireland.

CHURCH RATE ABOLITION BILL.—The Bill brought in by Sir J. Trevelyan provides that from and after the passing of this Act no church rate shall be made or levied in England or Wales. Provided always that in any parish where a sum of money is at the time of the passing of this Act due on the security of church rates to be made or levied in such parish under the provisions of any Act of Parliament, such rates may still be made and levied pursuant to such provisions for the purpose of paying off the money so due, but not otherwise, until the same shall have been liquidated. Any church rate made at any time before the passing of this Act may be collected and recovered in the same way as if this Act had not been passed.

DEATH OF MRS. GLADSTONE.—The domestic affliction which has led to a week's absence from the House of Commons of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is the death of Mrs. Gladstone, the wife of the Member for Devon, which event took place on the 12th inst., at 42, Upper Brook-street, Grosvenor-square. Captain Gladstone and his numerous family have sustained an irreparable loss in the decease of this estimable lady.

CLERICAL SUBSCRIPTION.—Lord Elbury has laid before the House of Lords a short Bill relating to the use of the Prayer-Book. He proposes to provide that, instead of the present declaration by a clergyman of his unfeigned assent and consent to the use of all things contained and prescribed in the Prayer-Book, it shall be sufficient if he choose only to declare that the Book of Common Prayer "may be lawfully used as such," and that in public prayers he will use it and none other.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

SHOCKING DEATH THROUGH FALLING INTO A LIME-KILN.—Much excitement has been excited at Cherryhillton, owing to the painful circumstances attending a fatal accident which occurred to William Layton, a lime-burner. It appears that the poor man had been sitting for some hours over the mouth of the kiln until he became almost insensible, and eventually fell into the kiln, where he had to remain some hours before assistance could be procured for his removal, the fact being, that the melancholy occurrence did not become known, it is supposed, until some time after the accident. The body was afterwards removed by the villagers, and, after remaining a long time on the grass, was conveyed to Addenbrooke's Hospital in a cart, the poor fellow dying before he got there, and exclaiming, "Pray for me." The body presented a most frightful spectacle, most of the flesh of the lower part having been burnt off. The feet were much burnt, and the arms severely so.—*Cambridge Independent.*

A LUCY HAIL.—Some fishermen at Fleetwood made a lucky hit last week. Six fishing boats picked up among them thirty-nine puncheons of whisky. They found them floating about twenty-three miles west of Blackpool, and it is supposed that the puncheons are part of the cargo of a wrecked vessel now breaking up. The whisky has been bonded, but the fishermen will get their salvage on it, whether it is claimed or not.—*Westmoreland Gazette.*

MEMORIAL TO "ALBERT THE GOOD" AT BIRKENHEAD.—Wm. Jackson, Esq., M.P., one of the spirited proprietors of the Clay Cross Works, has worthily offered to erect in the Birkenhead Park a memorial to our lamented Prince Albert, and to present it to the public. The character of the memorial will shortly be decided upon.

SHOCKING DEATH OF A BOY IN THE HUNTING FIELD.—On Monday afternoon an inquest was held on the body of George Harry Thorne, aged twelve years, the son of Mr. Thorne, cab proprietor, of Castle-street, Wolverhampton. On Saturday week, the deceased, who, for a child, was remarkably clever at horsemanship, was out riding with the Albrighton hounds, at Neachley, when he was thrown from his horse, and his foot becoming entangled in the stirrup, he was dragged along the ground for some distance, receiving severe contusions on the head and other parts of the body. The accident was witnessed by the greater number of persons who composed the "field," yet the horse could not be stopped till the poor boy had received most shocking injuries. So serious were they, that he was not expected to survive many hours. He, however, lingered till Friday afternoon, having, in the meantime, been attended by three surgeons and a physician. A verdict in accordance with the above-mentioned facts was returned.

THE WINDHAM CASE.—Mrs. Windham continues at Felbrigg Hall, Mr. W. F. Windham's Norfolk property. She is said to have been rather indisposed during the past week. Her arrival at Felbrigg seems to have been fully arranged for, Mr. Windham having announced it by anticipation at his audit dinner. Mr. Windham himself also remains in Norfolk, and was in Norwich on Saturday.

GALLANTRY OF A BRITISH CAPTAIN.—PRESENTATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—On Thursday, the Liverpool local marine board formally presented Mrs. Wallis (wife of Captain Joseph Spear Wallis, of the British bark Sea Wave) with a gold medal, the gift of the President of the United States, in acknowledgment of Captain Wallis's services to the shipwrecked crew of the American ship David Bryant, which was lost in January, 1861, on her voyage from San Francisco to Liverpool. Captain Green (late of the steamship Bahiana), responded on behalf of Mrs. Wallis, and stated that this was the second gold medal which Captain Wallis had received for the display of humanity. The first medal received was from the King of the Netherlands.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY A DISAPPOINTED LOVER.—A young fellow of respectable appearance, named John Haddershaw, and who resides in Skinner-lane, Leeds, attempted self-destruction. It appears that he had been paying his addresses to Miss Caroline Deighton, No. 12, Tulip-street, but that his addresses had not recently been favourably received by that young lady. A little after ten o'clock on Wednesday night, Police-constable Silverwood, who was on duty in Land's-lane, said that Haddershaw came up to him in a very agitated state, took hold of his arm, and said in faint and broken tones, "I am dying—I have been taking poison. I have swallowed a shilling's worth of laudanum, and I wish you to find me a place where I can lay myself down to die." Pitts, another officer, stated that he went to the residence of Caroline Deighton after Haddershaw had been locked up, and obtained from her a small oblong memorandum-book, which had been sent to her by the prisoner before he swallowed the poison. It contained the following letter:—"Dear Carry,—This is the last time you will see me. You are the cause of my troubles, but I forgive you, and next time we meet I hope it will be in heaven. Had you have taken my advice we should have both been happy, but now it is too late. You need not inquire about me, for no one will know my fate. Dear Carry, you must redeem that ring, and wear it for my sake: I hope you will grant me this request, it is the last. Farewell; you may find others who may love you dear, but not love like mine.—I remain, a second George Barnwell, J. H. To Caroline Deighton, Tulip-street, No. 12." Under the tender care of the policeman and the medical man, he was soon out of danger. The magistrates thought the lad required the protection of a parent, and they accordingly sent for his mother, to whom he was consigned in the course of the afternoon.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

"MR. MARK LEMON ABOUT LONDON" continues to attract very numerous audiences, and the first and second parts have been considerably increased in interest by being now compressed into one lecture, and liberally interspersed with lighter anecdotal matter. "About London" is now delivered every Monday and Friday, and "About Westminster" every Wednesday and Saturday, with all the beautiful and original illustrations.

MR. BLANCHARD JERROLD'S ENTERTAINMENT.—Pictures of the English painted by the French, and Pictures of the French painted by the English, two studies of eccentric portraiture, illustrated by a series of French and English caricatures,—will be delivered in London in the spring and summer, and in the provinces during the ensuing autumn.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—After two years' cessation the comic drama of "Retained for the Defence" has been revived to give Mr. Robson an opportunity of giving his highly-comic personation of *Porkins*. This strange being is a variation of the *Jim Boy* species of vagabonds, who, being introduced by a benevolent gentleman into genteel life, conducts himself with that outrageous comicality which Mr. Robson is supreme in. We are glad to see that Mr. Robson has quite recovered his vigour and his health, and plays with as much enjoyment to himself as to his audience. On Monday next, Mr. Robson appears in an entirely new comic drama, performing a part drawn from theatre life, and founded, as we hear, on an actual event. It is to be entitled a "Fairy's Father." Miss Amy Sedgwick also makes her re-appearance on the same night.

PRINCESSES.—A new sensation drama, under the title of "The Angel of Midnight," was brought out at this theatre on Monday evening last, with complete success. It is spectral and sepulchral in the extreme, and those who delight in the marvellous and telling effects may have their appetites appeased to satiety by witnessing this new candidate for sensation honours.

FALL OF HOUSES AND LOSS OF LIFE AT HACKNEY.

The adjourned inquest on the bodies of Jacob Kettridge, aged 34; John Fuller, aged 33; and Alfred Rathbone, aged 12, who lost their lives by the fall of newly-constructed houses in the Amherst-road, closely adjoining the Hackney Station of the North London Railway, on Wednesday last, was resumed on Saturday before Mr. John Humphreys, coroner for Middlesex, at the Town Hall Hackney.

The proceedings continued to excite very great interest; and it was stated that some of the other sufferers still lying at the German Hospital, Dalston, are in a very precarious condition. Mr. Ellis, solicitor, appeared on the part of the Hackney District Board of Works, and also for the relations of the sufferers, Kettridge and Rathbone; Mr. Nicholson, solicitor, represented Mr. T. Amos, the builder, and Mr. Green, the surveyor, under whose supervision the houses are being erected.

A number of witnesses were examined; among them, James Kettridge, who said: I was employed as a labourer on the buildings which have fallen down. I saw the mortar mixed, and carried it. The mortar was composed of three-parts sand and loam and one of lime. I understand the mixing of mortar. The sand was right enough, if the loam had not been in it. It was certainly mortar that ought not to have been used in such buildings as these. I also carried the bricks. They were of such a character that I could crumble them up in my hand and put them into my hod. The sweepings of the stuff from the old buildings was all mixed up together with the mortar for the inside of the new buildings.

By the Coroner: There was one barrel of lime used to three barrels of the old stuff.

By Mr. Ellis: The piers upon which the frontage stood have been cracked this last three weeks. I was in the back part of the buildings when they fell. I am, therefore, unable to speak as to the part which came out first.

Mr. Nicholson: You said the bricks were so bad you could crumble them up in your hand. Was it not your duty when you found bricks so to throw them away?

Witness: When we threw bricks away which were bad we were told not to do so. The inferior mortar was used in the back of the 4½-inch work for facings. I have been told by Charles Amos to pick the bad bricks up and take them on the scaffold. They were used for filling-in work.

By the jury: There was no difference that I am aware of between the mortar of the houses that have fallen and those that are still standing.

George Rathbone, father of one of the deceased persons, said: I helped to pick my son out of the ruins. I had some considerable experience in these buildings, in which I was employed, and from my knowledge I consider that the cause of the accident was the improper construction of the pier. There were no story-posts, which are usual in such buildings. I have examined the bricks since I was here before. They are the worst description of bricks that can be used. I have examined the mortar, and its description is very inferior. I believe the pier was worked in with the wall, but that would speak for itself now.

By Mr. Nicholson: I am a plasterer, but I perfectly understand the character of bricks. It is usual to use story-posts before the brick-work is run up above the bressumer. I have worked as a bricklayer, and know the business better than many builders.

By the Coroner: I have no doubt that the cause of the accident was the improper construction of the pier in the centre of the two houses in front.

THE LILY OF KILLARNEY.

In our last we gave portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault, also a short criticism of the two new pieces, the "Dublin Boy," and the "Lily of Killarney." The first, at the Adelphi, an adaptation from the French, by Mr. Boucicault; and the second, at Covent Garden, an opera founded on that gentleman's popular drama of "The Colleen Bawn." The above is an illustration of the 3rd scene in Act 1—"Interior of Eily's cottage"—where Father Tom and the women have just brewed their mugs of punch. Myles na Coppaleen has followed Eily to her wild home in the mountains, where the following conversation takes place:—

EILY.—Poor Myles, do ye love me still so much?

MYLES.—Didn't I leave the world to follow ye? and, since then, there's been nayther night nor day in my life. I lay down on Glenapoint above, where I could see this cottage; and I lived on the very sight of it. Oh, Eily! if tears were pisen to the grass, there wouldn't be a blade on Glena-hill this day.

EILY.—But you knew I was married, Myles?

MYLES.—Not then, aroon; but when you told me you were Hardress Cregan's wife, that was a great comfort to me entirely. Since I knew that, I haven't been the blackguard I was. Well, well, it's passed, we'll think of it no more. Come, Eily, couldn't ye cheer up his reverence with a song?

EILY.—Hardress bid me not sing our ould Irish songs—he says the words are vulgar.

F. TOM.—Put your lips to that jug, and while that true Irish liquor warms your heart, may the brogue of ould Ireland never forsake your tongue. May her music never leave your voice, and our true Irish virtue never leave your heart.

MYLES.—Come, Eily, it's my liquor—haven't you a word to say for it?

Eily then sings the beautiful ballad of "The Cruiskeen Lawn."

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE ON CRINOLINE.—It is, I think, alarming, peculiarly at this time, when the female ink-bottles are perpetually impressing upon us "woman's particular worth and general missionariness," to see that the dress of women is daily more and more unfitting them for any "mission" of usefulness at all. It is equally unfitting for all poetic and domestic purposes. A man is now a more handy and far less objectionable being in a sick room than a woman. Compelled by her dress, every woman now either shuffles or waddles; only a man can cross the floor of a sick room without shaking it. What is become of a woman's light step—the firm, light, quick step we have been asking for? A nurse who rustles (I am speaking of nurses professional and unprofessional) is the horror of a patient, though perhaps he does not know why. The tidget of silk and of crinoline, the rattling of keys, the creaking of stays and of shoes, will do a patient more harm than all the medicines in the world will do him good. The noiseless step of woman, the noiseless drapery of woman, are mere figures of speech in this day. Her skirts (and well if they do not throw down some piece of furniture) will at least brush against every article in the room as she moves. Fortunately it is if her skirts do not catch fire, and if the nurse does not give herself up a sacrifice, together with her patient, to be burnt in her own petticoats. I wish the Registrar-General would tell us the exact number of deaths by burning occasioned by this absurd and hideous custom. I wish, too, that people who wear crinoline could see the indecency of their own dress as other people see it. A respectable elderly woman, stooping forward, invested in crinoline, exposes quite as much of her own person to the patient lying in the room as an opera dancer does on the stage. But no one will ever tell her this unpleasant truth!—*Notes on Nursing.*



THE ACCIDENT AT HACKNEY. See page 311.



SCENE FROM BENEDICT'S NEW OPERA, "THE LILY OF KILLARNEY." See page 311.



THE GOLD DIGGINGS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA. See page 314.



FELBRIGG HALL, THE SEAT OF W. F. WINDHAM, ESQ., See page 314.

THE GOLD FIELDS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THIS new El Dorado, which the miners have named Cariboo, from "Cerv-bont," a large species of reindeer which inhabits the country, is situated about 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, the mountains rising to an altitude of 5,000 feet. The climate is not so cold as that of Canada; snow falls in October, and the winter, which lasts till April, is generally clear and dry, but the spring is characterised as wet, and the summer is subject to frequent rains. From May to October is the mining season, and a busy and wonderfully lucrative one it was last year in Cariboo.

British Columbia has for some years been known as a country rich in gold, but the most sanguine could hardly have dreamt of anything at all approaching the reality of the immense quantities of the precious metal which have recently been discovered in our latest established colony. Gold is literally dug up by the shovelful. There is an effluence of gold. It is only necessary to remove the surface of the virgin soil, and the earth shines with gold. When the "bed-rock," we are told, was laid bare, it was found studded or paved with "lumps" of gold, and one panful of dirt was ascertained to contain more than £200 worth of gold! To throw up £10 worth in a shovelful is thought nothing of! Such are the accounts which have just reached us from a gold region which is destined soon to rival, if not eclipse, California. Cariboo, the district which has thus suddenly become world-renowned, is situated in the interior, about 500 miles to the north-east from the coast of British Columbia, and is described as "a broken rugged mass of mountains and streams, fifty miles from north to south, and thirty miles from east to west, as far as is yet known from recent exploration—round three sides of which the south branch of the Fraser makes a great bend or semicircle from its source to its junction with the north branch, or Stuart's River, near Fort George, a trading station of the Hudson's Bay Company, in about lat. 53 deg. 50 min. N." The region embraced within these limits measures about 180 miles north-west by fifty miles south-west, and the whole of it is supposed to be auriferous, the portion of it above alluded to having only as yet been "prospected," and found to be teeming with gold.

In May the miners set to work, and raw hands, unaccustomed to their new toil, soon found their labours rewarded in a manner that must be considered prodigious, even on the part of bounteous Nature. A Mr. Smith earned £185 6s. in one day. Two men got out £180 in two days. This was in May. The next few months had in store still higher prizes for all who sought for them. Out of two crevices in a rock less than three feet below the surface of the earth £340 worth of gold was dug out; and four miners on the first two days of their work obtained £1,040, while on the third day their hearts were gladdened with seventy-two ounces of the precious metal! These accounts are almost fabulous, but there can be no question as to their truth. The *Times*' correspondent, to whose letters we are indebted for these details, records many instances which fell under his own personal knowledge where miners had become suddenly enriched. A shoemaker, who was poor last spring, returned to Victoria at the end of the mining season with £4,500. His two partners, who were fishermen, had in deposit in Victoria shortly after they arrived £10,800. It is added, they all intend to return to Cariboo next season. We should rather think so. But there is a dark side to the picture. Considering that the district is situated so far in the interior of the country—albeit it has a good water communication within forty miles of Antler's Creek, where a town has sprung up as if by magic—all the necessities of life were exorbitantly dear. Flour, 1s. 6d. per lb.; bacon, 3s.; sugar and coffee the same; and a "meal" of bacon, beans, and a cup of bad coffee, 8s. 4d. Business at these prices was described as lively; though little appears to have been done by the laundry men, whose ordinary charge for washing a dozen pieces was £1 4s. 6d. But if these were the only drawbacks to making and keeping fortunes, many miners might still grow rich like the shoemaker and the two fishermen to whom we have alluded. For want of excitement the miners fly to gambling. "Monte and faro banks and poker games are all the go." One party of three lost between them at one sitting £5,400. "The clink of money and the sound of gamblers' voices are heard at all hours." Professional blacklegs track the successful miners everywhere, and too often, after all their good fortune, leave them penniless. Whisky-shops too abound, dealing at two shillings a thimbleful in beverages which are eulogised as "Minie-rifle and tangle-leg, warranted to kill at any distance." Too true; these are things which do kill, as well as often cause a great deal of bloodshed; but we are happy to state, nevertheless, that the best possible order has been maintained, and that the miners hitherto have been even exemplary in their conduct in Cariboo. A great future is now opening to us in that hitherto unknown land, and it behoves our Government to direct their attention forthwith to its growing interests.

FELBRIGG HALL.

THE great interest and notoriety which the Windham case has created in all classes of society is of sufficient importance to warrant us in supposing that a view of Felbrigg Hall, where young Mr. Windham is at present residing, will not be devoid of interest to our subscribers. As the pedigree of the Windham family has so recently been given, together with much important information upon the antecedents of the family, we need only give a brief description of the Hall. It stands at the eastern extremity of a high tract of land called Felbrigg and Sherringham Heaths, and ranks among the finest situations in the county. It is partially of the time of Henry VIII, but has since been considerably enlarged and improved at different periods; it is now a convenient, and, in some respects, an elegant, structure, as many of the recent alterations and additions—particularly the fitting-up of the hall and library—have been executed in a style corresponding with the south front. The library contains a collection of valuable works, and a fine collection of prints. Here are also a number of paintings by the most eminent masters.

The Park contains several old standing woods, to which many plantations have been progressively added. In the parish church, which stands in the Park, is a marble slab with a fine brass, representing the figure, in complete armour, of Sir Simon de Felbrigg, who lived in the time of Henry VI.

THE LATE MISS WOODFALL.—A passing mention must here be made of the death of one who, though not directly, was incidentally connected with literature—of Miss Woodfall, the daughter of Henry Sampson Woodfall, the first publisher of Junius's Letters! She was of great age—ninety-four—born, therefore, before Junius had made his first appearance, and long before the United States of America had existence. As she resided with her father until his death in 1805, she may be considered as the last direct authority on those letters. Though not unwilling to converse about Junius, and a good test of an anecdote, she really knew but little, and, as we believe, for the best of all reasons, that her father knew but little that was not known to all. She resided for many years in Dean's-yard, Westminster, where she was universally respected; and the dean and chapter have, we hear, kindly acceded to her known wish to be buried in the cloisters, and Dean Trench has volunteered to read the funeral service. What a link in tradition is thus lost! The Woodfalls have been, more or less, connected with literature and literary men for two centuries; before the days of Pope, certainly, who gave half a crown to Henry Sampson, when a child, for reading a page of Homer.—*Athenaeum*.

THE LAW COURTS.

COURT OF PROBATE AND DIVORCE.

(Before the Judge Ordinary.)

SMITH V. SMITH AND SWAIN.—Mr. Dayken appeared for the petitioner, who was a carpenter at Andover. He married the respondent on 10th of April, 1854, and cohabited with her about two years, during which time she had one child, which was still living. After the separation she led the life of a prostitute in Winchester; but she had latterly been living with the co-respondent Swain as his wife. When the citation was served on the co-respondent, he said that he would have had nothing to do with her if he had known that the husband would have kicked up any row about it. The court made a decree nisi, but without cost.

RICHARDSON V. RICHARDSON AND DEACON.—Dr. Spinks appeared for the petitioner, Captain Christopher Roland Richardson, of the 11th Foot. He married the respondent at Chatham in December, 1852, and cohabited with her till the year 1854, when she eloped whilst her husband was on duty at the Cape of Good Hope, and it was proved that she was now living in Plymouth with Major William Edward Durnell Deacon, of the 61st Regiment, as his wife. There had been four children of the marriage. The respondents denied the adultery and pleaded connivance, conduct conducive to the adultery, and elopement on the part of the petitioner; but they did not now appear. Under these circumstances the court reserved its judgment to enable them to make an application next motion day, in case their absence should have been caused by accident.

WILLIAMS V. WILLIAMS.—The petitioner, Winifred Williams, was a domestic servant in the service of an aged lady in Robert-street, Hampstead-road. She was married to the respondent, a journeyman plasterer, in 1844, and her mistress allowed him to live in the house with her for ten years. When her mistress died she eloped with him, and it was proved that the respondent's conduct was such that he had taken to drink; that they received notice to quit. They continued together for some little time longer, but about eight years ago he left her, and he had since been living with one Fanny Clapp as man and wife. Mr. Searle appeared for the petitioner; and the court made a decree nisi with costs.

HODGES V. HODGES.—ANOTHER CLAUSTRINE MATRIL.—Mr. Searle appeared for the petitioner, who sought a dissolution of her marriage on the ground of adultery and desertion. In the year 1847 she was married privately to the respondent, an ironmonger, at Bristol. They cohabited till 1849, when the respondent, having become addicted to drink, and having neglected his business, fell into difficulties. After that he obtained a situation, and was put into prison for robbing his employers. Next he came to town, but in fact he went to New York, where he became the editor of a newspaper. In 1854 he invited his wife to join him, which she did; and after a time he proposed to her that she should travel about the Union as an actress. She declined to do so, and he then refused to maintain her. She afterwards returned to England, and had since been living with her father. There was one child of the marriage. It had lately been ascertained that the respondent had gone to Philadelphia, where he was editing the "Press" daily paper; and that he had married in 1858 a Miss Harriet Swisher, of Baltimore, by whom he had had two children. The respondent was a D.C.L., and had been connected with the English press. Mr. Serjeant Pigott and Mr. Davison appeared for the petitioner. The court made a decree nisi, with costs.

GALE V. GALE.—BIGAMY EXTRAORDINARY.—The respondent, Gloucester Gale, was a commercial traveller, and it appeared that in the course of two or three years he had amused himself by marrying no fewer than thirteen wives. At last he was arrested; he pleaded "Guilty," and had been sentenced to five years' penal servitude. The petitioner had been a Miss Eliza Cecilia Gale, and she was married to him in January, 1849. The bigamy proved in this court had been committed with Sarah Ann Drouet, with whom he had gone through a form of marriage under the name of George Geer, at St. George's, Hanover-square, on the 3rd of May, 1858. He deserted her after five days' cohabitation. Dr. Wamley appeared for the petitioner; and the court made a decree nisi, with costs.

GROBECKER V. GROBECKER AND BEHOWES.—The parties were married in 1852, the husband being a railway employee. A child was born in the year following. Soon afterwards the wife became addicted to drink, and her husband was obliged to separate from her, and to allow her 5s. a week. He heard no more of her till some years after, when he was summoned for the support of a second child, which she had had long after she left him. She was at present in St. Pancras workhouse. Dr. Spinks and Mr. Wood, who appeared for the petitioner, did not press the case against the co-respondent, the evidence against him being merely a confession which he had made of an adulterous connexion with her. The court made a decree nisi, but without costs.

POLICE COURTS.

MANSON HOUSE.—CHARGE OF ROBBERY.—David George, 23 years of age, described as a cooper, living in Charles-street, Camberwell, and George Hall, otherwise Alecock, 19, a shoemaker, in Morgan-street, Commercial-road East, were brought before the Lord Mayor, charged with a daring robbery. The principal witness was Mrs. Ellen Brown, whose husband keeps a district post-office and money-order office and a stationer's shop at 68, Leadenhall-street. On Saturday last, between one and two o'clock, the prisoner Hall entered the shop and asked for a sheet of paper. She said he might go to the other end of the shop and try to find one. When the other customers left she went to attend to him. Hearing a slight noise, she raised her head, and saw the prisoner George, who is a strong, determined-looking man, standing on the counter leaning over a partition, and reaching toward a money-drawer, from which he took a small wooden bowl containing fifty-six sovereigns. She rushed forward and caught the prisoner as he was making towards the door with the bowl of gold in his hand. At that moment a messenger, named Workman, from the General Post-office came in, and seeing witness struggling with the prisoners ran out for assistance, fastening the door on the outside. She was then left alone with the two prisoners inside. Presently Workman returned with two police-officers, who captured the prisoners, one of whom (George) witness held until they arrived. The prisoners stood aloof from each other in the dock, each declaring the other was an entire stranger to him; but Joseph Chamber Knight, a detective-officer, said he had seen them repeatedly together under circumstances, which excited his suspicion. The prisoner George, after trying in vain to have the case disposed of at once, said, in answer to the charge, that he was guilty of taking the money, but he was not allowed to leave the shop, and never got away with it. (Laughter.) Hall, with well-affected indignation, said it was a scandalous thing that he should be sent for trial for the act of another man. He did not take the money, nor did he tell his fellow-prisoner to take it. Besides, he never before saw him. The prisoners were committed for trial.

CLERKENWELL.—BURGLARY.—Mr. Knox, who sat for Mr. Barker, was engaged for some time in hearing a case of housebreaking against three well-dressed men, who gave the names of Simon Claydon, aged 25, an engineer, of 5, Waterloo-road, Lambeth, Henry Percival, aged 20, a mason, who refused his address, and John Beaumont, aged 25, a lapidary, who also refused his address. The prisoners were charged with breaking and entering the dwelling-house, No. 32, Rheidol-terrace, Islington, and stealing therefrom three per cent. stock and railway shares of the value of between £1,700 and £1,800, besides four silver teaspoons, one pair of sugar tongs, one pair of gold bracelets, one gold watch, one gold chain, seven gold studs, one coat, and other articles of wearing apparel, the property of Mr. Robert Ellis Roberts, of the above address. Two of the prisoners had severe wounds on their heads, owing to a desperate struggle with the police when they endeavoured to make their escape from the house of the prosecutor. Police-constable Herbert Stannore, 126 N, had watched them, and saw them moving about with a light. He waited some time, and some other officers coming up, they entered the house, and Claydon then ran off. They found the prisoners in the front parlour behind the folding-doors. The front kitchen door had been broken open. The prisoners in the house were very violent, and made a most desperate struggle and resistance to their capture. The prosecutor stated that the whole of the property produced belonged to him. It was all safe when he and his family went out to church. He left no one in the house. He had his dog stolen on Tuesday last, and he had no doubt but that the prisoners were connected with the persons who purloined it. Inspector Judge said he should like a remand, as he had no doubt the prisoners had before been convicted. Mr. Knox committed the prisoners for trial.

MARLBOROUGH STREET.—USING THREATENING LANGUAGE.—William Hack, a porter attending the auction-rooms of Mr. Phillips, of New Bond-street, was charged with threatening to stab Mr. Jefferson, a commission agent of Leigh-street, Red Lion-square. The complainant: I purchased some goods at Mr. Phillips's, on Saturday, and while speaking to a porter, the defendant came up and said, "Let me have a go at him, Punch away." The defendant then grinned savagely at me, and pulled out a knife and

said, "I'll rip you up." I followed him outside to give him in charge, and when I had done so he broke away from the constable, and began striking me. He then seized me by the arm, and let my hand. I was told he was mad, but I do not think he is. Defendant: There were twenty of these commission agents. Did you (to the complainant) try to throw me down stairs, and did you not say you would knock my eyes out? The complainant: No. William Darbyshire, of 118, King's-road, Chelsea, confirmed some of the complainant's statement, and said there was a regular row in the rooms, and Mr. Phillips ordered the defendant to be turned out. He heard the defendant threaten to rip up the complainant. Defendant: Why, you will say anything. You have robbed the magistrate. The witness a dog with a handlechief round its neck. The complainant, Mr. Tyrwhitt, asked the witness what he meant by "ripping" into the complainant, and the witness said he meant "pitched into, or fought at him." Defendant said all the complainant's friends were elevated a good deal. They belonged to a society, and because he did not, they had an ill-feeling against him. He had had to appeal to the magistrate at that court, and on the very morning in question the complainant looked at him like the "old gentleman." He would like to know what he was to do? Mr. Tyrwhitt: Certainly not to rip up the complainant, and you must find one surety to keep the peace towards the complainant.

AN AFRICAN SLAVE HUNTER.—Timothy McCarthy, a labourer, was charged with unlawfully having a dog, value £150, in his possession. Stephen Hoare, H.B. said that at half-past five on Saturday afternoon he saw the prisoner, who was drunk, in Mark-lane, Piccadilly, leading a dog with a handlechief round its neck. Witness asked him how he became possessed of it, when he replied that the dog to whom it belonged gave it to him; but he afterwards contradicted this statement by saying he had had it from a lady, who gave it away because it was too old. The dog was here introduced to the notice of the magistrate, and by its extraordinary size and appearance at once excited the astonishment of all beholders. It was a bound nearly eight feet in length, standing as high as the solicitors' table, with limbs in proportion of a brown and white colour, partially brindled. Mr. Arnold inquired whether any owner had been found for it? The police replied that the person who had charge of it was present. Mrs. Chisholm, of 19, Warwick-place, Piccadilly, said the dog belonged to Mr. Archer, a gentleman at present at the Isle of Wight. The dog had been left with her to take care of, and through some workmen being in the house on Saturday afternoon, it got out and ran into the street. Mr. Arnold inquired what breed the dog was. Mrs. Chisholm replied she understood he was called an "African slave-hunter." The value of the dog was £150, or more. Inspector Humphreys: The dog is well known to our men. Mr. Arnold: I hope they don't use him practically. (Much laughter.) Prisoner said he knew no more about the dog than the dog knew about him. He had been in his present employment fourteen years, and never had a stain upon his character. He was induced to take some rum on Saturday afternoon, and, becoming intoxicated, got hold of the dog by some means, but how he could not say. It was not likely a poor man like him would think of keeping such a great dog. As it would take more to feed him than all his (accused's) family. Inspector Humphreys said he had inquired into the accused's character, and found he was a respectable man. Mr. Arnold: What were you going to do with the dog? Prisoner: I am sure I don't know. Mr. Arnold: People really seem to prize extraordinary freaks when drunk. Why should you, a poor respectable man, take it into your head that somebody had given you the dog? Webb, the messenger, said that the prisoner before his apprehension, was knocking at the houses in Gloucester-street, inquiring whether anybody had lost the dog. The policeman who took him into custody said the prisoner declared it was his own, and he would not give it up. Mr. Arnold the accused to pay 10s. for unlawfully possessing the dog.

RECOVERY OF PICTURES.—Mrs. Connelly, pianist, Strand, was brought up for further examination, charged with stealing a number of pictures, the property of Mr. Critten, a picture dealer, of Great Marlborough-street, addressed the court, and stated that in consequence of the prisoner being subject to epileptic fits, and the high respectability of the prisoner's connections, the prosecutor was not inclined to proceed with severity. He trusted, therefore, the court would be disposed to take a merciful view of the case, and to regard the charge only as one of illegally pawing. The prosecutor said, if the magistrate did not object, he was willing to abstain from pressing the charge, provided, of course, the pictures, some of which were valuable, were given back to him. Mr. Tyrwhitt had no objection to deal with the case in a lenient manner, in consequence of the plea that had been urged, of the prisoner being subject to epileptic fits. He would take the case as one of illegally pawing, and inflict a fine of £3, or two months' imprisonment. The money was paid.

SOUTHWARK.—EXTENSIVE PLUNDER AND RECEIVING OF STOLEN PROPERTY.—Mr. James Briggs, an oil and colourman, of New-street, Borough-road, was brought before Mr. Burcham for final examination, charged with stealing and receiving a large quantity of emery cloth and paper, valued at £200, the property of Mr. John Oakley, of 173, Blackfriars-road. Mr. Humphreys appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Lewis, son, for the prisoner. The court was densely crowded during the examination, which lasted several hours. Mr. John Oakley, jun., said the property produced was his father's property. It had been stolen from their factory. He identified it by numbers, as they were high numbers forwarded only to country dealers. He had ascertained that goods of the same number had been sent by the clerk, and that duplicate orders had been made up and clandestinely removed by some one on their establishment. Skinner, who was clerk at the time the property was stolen, was discharged, and Leggett, the carman absconded. A good deal of evidence was gone into, when Mr. Burcham fully committed the prisoner for trial at the next Central Criminal Court session, bail being refused.

LAMBETH.—DESPERATE ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.—William Doherty, aged 22, a jobbing gardener, was charged with making a desperate attempt at self-destruction by cutting his throat. Sergeant Stevens, 19 B, said that on the 14th of December last he went to the prisoner's house for the purpose of apprehending him on a charge of stealing six valuable Dorking fowls belonging to a lady who lived a few doors off. On reaching there he found the door secured, but he got a ladder and by that means got inside, when he found the prisoner lying on the bed with his throat cut in a shocking manner, and a butcher's knife covered with blood by his side. The wound was temporarily dressed, and he conveyed the prisoner to Guy's Hospital, where he remained to that morning, when he brought him thence. The lady who lost the fowls did not wish to press the charge. The prisoner, who could not speak beyond a whisper, was remanded for a week.

HAMMERSMITH.—ALLEGED INFANTICIDE.—A young woman, named Hannah Cook, who was allowed to be seated in the dock, was charged before Mr. Ingham with having caused the death of her illegitimate child, and also with concealing the birth of the same. From the evidence adduced, it appeared that the prisoner had been in the service of a lady named Frances Appell, residing at No. 9, Sussex-place, Kensington New Town, during the past three months, as cook, and no suspicions were entertained of her being pregnant, though she slept in the same bed with another female servant. On the morning of Saturday, the 1st instant, she complained of being unwell, and remained in bed until one o'clock in the day, at which time she got up, and resumed her duties. However, in the evening, her mistress noticed that she appeared very weak, and sent for Mr. J. Cunningham, a surgeon, of Kensington-square. On the following day, neither Mrs. Appell nor her household had any suspicion of the prisoner's real condition. On Mr. Cunningham's arrival he asked her what was the matter with her, and she replied that she had given birth to a child, between six and seven o'clock in the morning. He then inquired where it was, and she pointed to a box in her room. He opened the box and found the dead body of a full-grown female child wrapped in a dress. It appeared to have been dead some hours. On examining the body he found that there was a wound on the lower lip on the right side, and a fracture of the jaw. The prisoner accounted for the injury to the jaw as being the result of accident, and said that the child did not breathe or cry. The prisoner was subsequently removed to Kensington workhouse, where she had remained. Dr. Guzmanconi, the medical officer of Kensington work, said he was present during the post-mortem examination. The injuries were of such an extensive nature that they could not have been caused through unskillful delivery, but were the result of considerable violence. Mr. Ingham said he should remand the prisoner for a week, to consider what he should do with the case.

GREENWICH.—VIOLENT ASSAULT.—Robert Samdler, a journeyman painter, of Napier-street, Deptford, was charged before Mr. Traill with committing a violent assault upon Mrs. Elizabeth Hay, landlady of the Napier public-house, Deptford. From the evidence given, it appeared that shortly before twelve o'clock on Saturday night, as the house was about being closed, the prisoner was requested to leave; and as he not only refused to do so, but commenced a disturbance, he was removed by the potman. The prisoner immediately afterwards forced his way into the house again and attacked the potman and had the nephew of the complainant, who, on going to their assistance, was likewise attacked by the prisoner striking her on the head and pulling her hair down, her wrist being also much injured. The complainant, to escape further violence on the part of the prisoner, locked herself in a room, and the assistance of the police being obtained, the prisoner was taken into custody. In reply to the magistrate, it was stated that the prisoner was very drunk. Mr. Traill said it was abominable conduct on the part of the prisoner, and as it was necessary licensed victuallers should be protected in keeping their houses orderly, he should impose a fine of 40s. or one month's imprisonment with hard labour. The prisoner not having the money, was removed into custody.

FRIGHTFUL COLLIERY ACCIDENT AT KINGSWOOD.

The village of Kingswood and the adjacent neighbourhood have been thrown into a state of melancholy excitement in consequence of an accident which, if not of equal magnitude, resembles in many of its features that which recently occurred at Hartley. The facts appear to be as follows:—At a short distance beyond Two Mile-hill is an old coal mine, the property of Mr. Whittuck and others, and known amongst the miners employed in it as "Tom Joy's Pit." About half-past seven on Wednesday evening five or six men amongst whom were Thomas Hes and Joseph Brien, were at work about 150 yards from the bottom of the shaft, in propping up with timber a portion of the roof of one of the drivings. It is said that whilst they were thus occupied, a "shot" was fired for the purpose of removing coal or muck in another part of the driving, and from the shock caused thereby, an immense mass of muck suddenly fell. It appears that the men had worked into an old "tip"—or shaft that had been rendered useless and filled up for many years, and the existence of which was unknown to the men engaged there—and came upon the old workings of the mine. Brien happened at the time of the fall, to be in the "tip," and the debris crushed him to death. Hes was a short distance in one of the old drivings, and on the muck falling he was instantly deprived of all means of communication with the shaft. As soon as the accident occurred the men in the pit, with the assistance of others to whom the sad information had been conveyed, commenced operations with a view to extricate the body of the deceased from the mass of muck, and relieve the entombed man from his perilous position; and by two o'clock on Thursday morning the dead body of Brien was recovered in a shockingly mutilated condition, and during the night the voice of Hes was distinctly heard by the men on the outside, but towards morning it was faint, as though he was becoming exhausted. The men worked energetically, and although they removed a vast quantity of muck the superincumbent mass gradually fell, thus rendering their exertions almost entirely abortive, until between six and seven on Thursday morning, when a second great "fall" took place, and all hopes of rescuing the poor fellow within a short period was at an end. Before now he had been enabled to obtain fresh air derived through an aperture which existed between the muck and the roof of the driving; and up to nearly seven o'clock in the morning he was heard to speak, but this formidable fall of muck entirely closed the aperture, and up to five o'clock in the evening the men at work heard nothing to lead them to believe that the poor fellow existed. Indeed, the accounts given by the men as they came to the mouth of the pit from time to time were of so disheartening a nature that the general impression was that foul air had accomplished its deadly work. Many gallant fellows volunteered their services in the endeavour to release their companion, to the imminent danger of their own lives, and so foul was the air at the spot where their exertions were required, that single candles would not burn, and to secure any light at all it was necessary to compress several candles together, and thus produce a united flame that should weaken the effect of the air upon the light. Should he survive it will be by his ascending the higher portions of the old workings, where, it is said, the air is comparatively pure. Joseph Brien was about twenty-eight years of age, and has left a wife and one child. Thomas Hes was about the same age, and has a wife and two children—the wife being close upon another confinement. Both families, we hear, are in distressed circumstances.—*Western Daily Press.*

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.

On Sunday morning, about three o'clock, a fire broke out in the Gray's-inn-road, near the King's-cross Railway Station, which, we regret to state, has been attended with fatal consequences to two human beings—a mother and infant—and there is but little doubt but the husband and father. The premises were in the tenure of Mr. Grendserth, a corn chandler, 17, Chester-place, Gray's-inn-road, adjoining the stores of the North London Repository. The discovery was made by a police officer, who, after considerable trouble, managed to arouse the inmates. They consisted of Matilda Baker, the housekeeper, a family consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Keir and an infant only twelve months old, and a man named George, the carman, who also slept in the building. He succeeded in getting out of the attic window, and ran along the parapet of the adjoining houses, and was sheltered by Mr. Palmer, in the same street. Mr. Keir, having snatched up his infant child, opened the front window on the second floor, and placed the child on the ledge, and was in the act of throwing it into the street, but the little innocent's foot caught in the iron bars in front of the window, used for protecting flowerpots. Mrs. Keir had also made her appearance at the same window. Her husband tried in vain to get her away, thinking that the Royal Society's escape had arrived, but unfortunately such was not the case, as, owing to the excitement at the time, the escape had not been sent for, and Mrs. Keir, after uttering two or three frantic screams, was seen to fall in the midst of the flames, and in a few minutes the poor creature was burned almost to a cinder. The husband, finding that he could render no further assistance to his wife, tried to escape himself. Having got out of the window, he hid hold of the ledge, where he held on for a short time, with the flames curling round his body and over his head. He then fell upon the flags beneath. He was picked up in a state of insensibility, and removed to the Royal Free Hospital, when it was found that his arms, hands, and neck were extensively burned, and his collar-bone broken. Very little hope is entertained of his recovery. The infant was rescued by the Royal Society's escape conductor, and taken to the Royal Free Hospital. It was seriously burned, and died in four hours after its admission. Four engines of the London Brigade were early in arriving. The flames were not extinguished until the premises, furniture, and stock were destroyed. As soon as the flames were got out, and before the ruins were cooled, some of the brigade entered the second floor front room, and under the window found the remains of the poor woman. The bodies were removed to the dead-house, to await the inquest. The cause of the misfortune is unknown, and Mr. Grendserth being out of town at the time, it could not be ascertained whether or not he was insured.

FRIGHTFUL DEATH OF A CHILD BY FIRE.—On Thursday night, Julia Hastings, aged four years, who resided in Duke-street, Westminster-road, lost her life under the following circumstances:—The deceased's mother went out and left her in the room, when her clothes caught fire. The inmates hearing a loud screaming went in, and found her nearly burnt to death. The flames were with difficulty extinguished, and she was taken to Guy's Hospital, where she died on her admission.

THE FRENCH MURDERER, DUMOLLARD.—Some curiosity has been evinced as to the manner in which Dumollard, the French murderer, comports himself since sentence of death has been passed on him. It was said that he had sunk into a state of nervous exhaustion, and was, when physical strength returned, a prey to the most terrible despair. All this, it appears, on excellent authority, was entirely unfounded, as the wholesale murderer incarcerated in the prison of Aïn displays an unbroken sunny front, and pays the most minute attention to his personal comforts. He wraps his shaggy round with linen to prevent them coming in contact with his flesh, and complains frequently of their weight and coldness. He does not expect his appeal to succeed; but is, nevertheless, totally indifferent to the chaplain's exhortations, and has several times interrupted them to complain of the prison fare, and of the bad suggestions of Aïn.

A TERRIBLE STRUGGLE.

The printer and publisher of the *Edinburgh Journal* was apprehended in London on Saturday last on a charge of forgery. On Sunday night he was handed over to Mr. Bell, chief constable of Fife, who had come up to town. They took their departure for the north by the express leaving King's-cross at 9.15 that night. They rode first-class. The compartment had no other occupants, and care was taken to have both doors locked. The prisoner was further secured by handcuffs. On the journey he chatted familiarly with Mr. Bell, and at York was provided with refreshment. Between York and Darlington he contrived to free himself of the iron cuff, the remaining cuff being left on the wrist of the chief constable, and manifested a wildness which alarmed his guardian. Without any further warning, he threw himself backwards out of the window, but was balked in his attempt to commit suicide by his companion, who had stretched himself to the imminent peril of his own life a considerable way out of the window in order to get hold of his collar, and so recover him. The maniac was desperate, and a fearful struggle ensued for a whole half-hour. The would-be suicide begged Mr. Bell to let go his hold, but Mr. Bell as desperately gripped him by the throat, yet was unable to drag him in, his legs from the knee joint only being within the carriage. Mr. Bell was overborne at last, and the maniac made one more desperate effort and broke away, tumbling headlong by the side of the train. The engine whistle had just then been sounded, before drawing up at Darlington, where the train stopped. The side of the carriage was besmeared with blood, indicative of the struggle. The express was detained of half an hour or more while a pilot engine was despatched up the line in search, but no trace could be found. On Monday afternoon a farmer reported to the police that he had met on the road leading to the Cleveland moors, a man without a hat, respectfully dressed, and greatly disfigured with cuts and bruises about the face. It is supposed that his head had come in contact with the footboard of the carriage. Mr. Bell and Superintendent Robson started off in pursuit, and traced their game as far as Osmotherley. They were only two hours behind him. He had slept an hour at a roadside cottage, and washed himself. His forged transactions were perpetrated on one of the banking houses in Cupar, and are said to amount to between £3,000 and £1,000. On Tuesday he was recaptured at Osmotherley, and lodged for the night in Northallerton gaol, and on Wednesday, in the custody of Mr. Bell and another officer, removed to Scotland. Mr. Bell has one of his arms disabled, and is suffering also from a violent kick in the side during the struggle. The prisoner, Samuel Johnson, has only a few scratches on the face. He says his intention was to commit suicide, but is now apparently penitent.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

The following Bill has been prepared and brought in the House of Commons by Mr. M. Milnes, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. Denman:—
“Whereas it is expedient to amend the law as to marriage with a deceased wife's sister: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

“1. No marriage which has been celebrated since the passing of the 6th and 6th of William IV, cap. 54, at any place whatever, within the realm or without, between a man and his deceased wife's sister, or which shall hereafter be celebrated between the like parties, in the office of any registrar under the provisions of the 6th and 7th of William IV, cap. 85, or the 1st of Victoria, cap. 22, or of the 3rd and 4th Victoria, cap. 72, or the 5th and 8th of Victoria, cap. 81 (Ireland), or of the 9th and 10th of Victoria, cap. 72 (Ireland), or of the 19th and 20th of Victoria, cap. 113, or the 23rd of Victoria, cap. 18, shall be deemed to have been nor shall be void or avoidable by reason only of the affinity of the parties thereto, or by reason of any statute, or of any canonical or other objection or impediment founded only on such affinity, to the validity of any such marriage or to the celebration thereof, or to the validity of license or certificate under which the same may have been celebrated.

“2. Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall render valid any marriage with the sister of a deceased wife where either of the parties has afterwards, during the life of the other, and before the passing of this Act, lawfully intermarried with any other person.

“3. Provided also, that this Act, so far as it relates to any marriage with the sister of a deceased wife contracted before the passing of this Act, shall not invalidate or affect any right to any dignity or title of honour, or any estate, right, title, or interest, legal or equitable, in or to any lands, hereditaments, chattels, or effects, vested in any person before the passing of this Act, nor any contingent estate or interest, legal or equitable, in any lands, hereditaments, chattels real, chattels or effects, created by or derived from any settlement, grant, conveyance to uses, release, appointment, or other instrument bona fide executed before the passing of this Act, or by or from any devise or will which shall have become operative by the death of the deviser or testator before the passing of this Act.

“4. No marriage between a man and his deceased wife's sister contracted in Scotland after the passing of this Act shall be void by reason only of the affinity of the parties thereto, or by reason of any statute, or of any objection or impediment, founded only on such affinity, to the validity of such marriage or to the contracting thereof.

“5. Clause 4 only of this Act shall extend to Scotland.”

SPORTING.

LATEST BETTING.

THE TWO-THOUSAND GUINEAS.—Old Calabar last week did not appear so buoyant as usual, but a reaction set in, and his opening price has been taken several times in well-informed quarters; and the Marquis appears to have recovered, 8 to 1 being freely accepted. Wingrave, both for this event and the Derby, has a strong party.

THE CHESTER CUP.—Satanella only in demand. The Derby.—Old Calabar is inquired after, and 8 to 1 was obtained about him; Buckthorne not inquired for; Ensign, the Typee colt, and Hubert the only others supported for money.

LINCOLN HANDICAP.—10 to 1 agst. Suburban (taken and offered); 10 to 1 agst. Arcadia (taken and offered).

LIVERPOOL STEEPCHASE.—15 to 2 agst. The Dane, 14 to 1 agst. Jealousy, 11 to 1 agst. Thoroughbred, 25 to 1 agst. Tumbler, 25 to 1 agst. Northern Light, 25 to 1 agst. Tippler, 33 to 1 agst. Zhen. (Taken on all).

CHESTER CUP.—20 to 1 agst. Zodiac, 33 to 1 agst. Vest colt, 33 to 1 agst. Hadji Savros, 34 to 1 agst. Agaz, 33 to 1 agst. Chere Amie, 35 to 1 agst. Caller Out, 55 to 1 agst. Victrix, 50 to 1 agst. Satanella. (All taken, except Zodiac).

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—3 to 1 agst. Old Calabar (taken and offered); 8 to 1 agst. The Marquis (taken); 14 to 1 agst. Wingrave (taken).

THE DERBY.—8 to 1 agst. Old Calabar, 22 to 1 agst. Ensign, 25 to 1 agst. Wingrave, 30 to 1 agst. Athleta, 40 to 1 agst. Zetland, 40 to 1 agst. Hubert. (All taken).

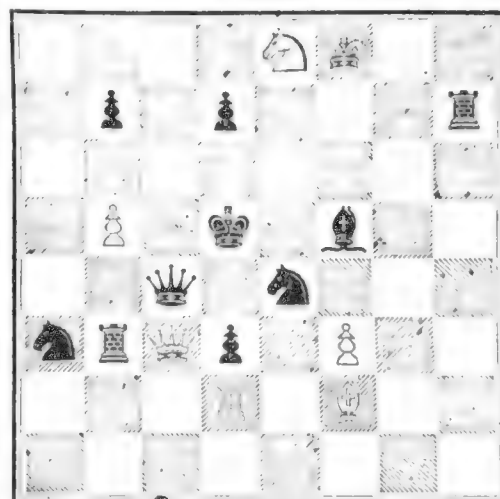
PEDESTRIANISM.

FOOT-RACE BETWEEN DEERFOOT AND JOB SMITH.—About 2000 persons assembled on Monday afternoon, despite the unpromising state of the weather, at Mr. Gerratt's enclosed pedestrian-ground, Wandsworth, to witness the contest between Job Smith, of Holme, near Manchester, and the celebrated Deerfoot, over a distance of six miles, for a stake of £50. Smith is twenty-eight years of age, standing five feet six inches. He has been engaged in a great many races, defeating, amongst others, Jackson, the American Deer. Shortly after four o'clock the men appeared on the ground; and Harry Reed having been appointed referee, the men got away. Deerfoot with the lead, which he maintained to the finish of the second lap, where Smith passed him. At the end of the first mile there was barely a yard between them. Time, 4 mins. 45 secs.; second mile, 10 mins. 13 secs.; the third mile was completed in 15 mins. 38 secs.; the fourth in 21 mins. 2 secs. So they continued passing and repassing each other until the finish of the eighteenth lap, when Smith, who was more than 100 yards in the rear, resigned the contest; and Deerfoot finished the distance at undiminished speed, doing the entire distance in 31 mins. 45 secs.

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 1.—By R. WILSON.

Black.

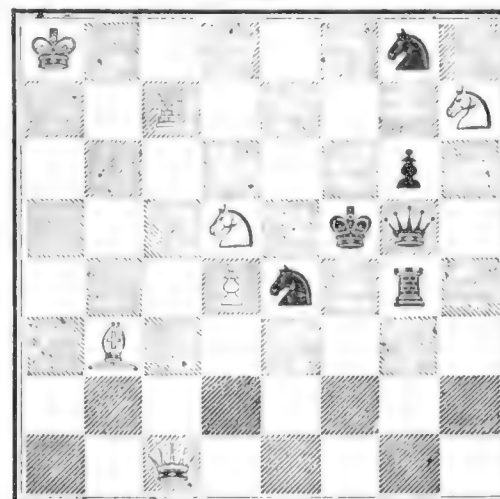


White.

White to move, and checkmate in four moves.

PROBLEM No. 2.—By W. G.

Black.



White.

White to move, and checkmate in three moves.

Between Messrs. B. and M., the former giving the odds the exchange.

(Remove White's Q R and Black's Q Kt.)

| White. Mr. B. | Black. Mr. M. |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. P to K 4 | 1. P to K 4 |
| 2. P to Q 4 | 2. P takes P |
| 3. P to K B 4 | 3. B to Q B 4 |
| 4. B to Q 3 | 4. P to Q 3 |
| 5. Kt to K B 3 | 5. B to K Kt 5 |
| 6. P to K R 3 | 6. B takes Kt |
| 7. Q takes B | 7. Kt to K B 3 |
| 8. Castles | 8. Castles |
| 9. P to K B 5 | 9. K Kt to Q 2 |
| 10. Q to K Kt 3 | 10. P to K B 3 |
| 11. B to K B 4 | 11. Kt to K 4 |
| 12. Q Kt to Q 2 | 12. Q to K 2 |
| 13. Kt to K B 3 | 13. P to Q B 3 |
| 14. K to R square (c) | 14. P to Q Kt 4 |
| 15. B takes Kt | 15. Q P takes B |
| 16. P to Q B 3 | 16. P takes P |
| 17. B to Q B 2 | 17. K R to Q square (d) |
| 18. B to Q Kt 3 (ch) | 18. K to B square (e) |
| 19. P takes P | 19. R to Q 6 |
| 20. Q to K R 4 | 20. P to K R 3 |
| 21. Q to K R 5 | 21. Q to K square |
| 22. Q to K Kt 4 | 22. Q R to Q square |
| 23. Kt to K R 4 | 23. Q to Q 2 |
| 24. Kt to K Kt 6 (ch) | 24. K to K square |
| 25. Q to K R 5 (f) | 25. Resigns |

(a) An unusual, but nevertheless a good method of continuing the opening.

(b) Probably his best reply.

(c) Preparatory to a clever combination.

(d) Apparently his best resource.

(e) If K to R square, then Kt to K R 4 with a winning attack.

(f) The whole of this game is beautifully conducted by Mr. Boden.

AN ILLICIT WHISKY MANUFACTURER AT BOLTON FINED £400.

—On Saturday, an elderly man, named George Boardman, residing in Folds-road Little Bolton, was brought before the magistrates by the officers of inland revenue, charged with being in possession of two stills for the manufacture of illicit whisky. The defendant was detected hawking illicit spirits on the 15th of last Dec., at Barcy Lever, and on searching his house, two stills, and all the other requisite materials of a distillery were found. He was fined £200 for each still, which was afterwards mitigated to the lowest penalty of £50 each, and in default was committed to prison for an unlimited period, having to be there detained during her Majesty's pleasure.—*Manchester Examiner.*

THE DERBY MURDER.—The inquest on the body of the unfortunate young woman, Eliza Morrow, who was murdered at Derby by Joseph Threlby, was held on Thursday morning, at the Derby Town-hall, when the jury returned a verdict of "Willful murder," against the accused.

FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND

THE recent misunderstanding between these two Governments, relative to the right of arresting persons in the Valley of Dappes, has given rise to the transmission of notes on the part of both France and Switzerland, and the question is far from being satisfactorily settled. The Swiss Federal Government, in their reply to the note of M. Thouvenel, state:—

"We mention with a firm conviction the reality of the fact, that the Swiss frontier had been violated. We regret that the French Ministry, having been misled by contradictory reports, has not been able to arrive at the same conviction as ourselves. It results from the communication of the notes which have been exchanged on this subject, that the French Government has not only positively given orders to prevent by force arrests in the Valley of Dappes, but that it intends to maintain these orders contrary to our well-based demands; and that, even according to the admission contained in the last French note, French gendarmes have appeared in the Valley of Dappes to enforce their execution."

"The Federal Council regrets that upon this head also no attention has been paid to its claim, and it becomes its duty to protest formally here against this proceeding, by which the exercise of the sovereignty which Switzerland has maintained up to the present time in the Valley of Dappes would be still further limited, and the *status quo* essentially modified to her prejudice."

In the accompanying engraving we give a view of the magnificent scenery of the Alpine districts—the rugged mountain-tops covered perpetually with snow, the rushing torrent and rocky gorge. In the midst of these, high up above the plains and valleys, reside the hardy herdsman and the fearless chamois hunter, in their rude chalets. These are log huts, formed of the trunks of pines, and are mostly bare of furniture except the necessities of the hunt and dairy utensils. As he leaves his rude mountain home, at early dawn, with dog and gun, or leaping-pike, perchance he looks back on those he leaves behind, and thoughts may arise in his mind whether he shall return home from his dangerous calling in safety; but the excitement of the chase for a time drives these from his mind, as he leaps from rock to rock, to gain a subsistence for himself and family in that humble chalet in the grand though dreary mountain gorge.

VALIDITY OF MARRIAGE IN FRANCE.

THE Civil Tribunal of Tours has just been called upon to decide as to the validity of a marriage contracted in Switzerland by a young Frenchman, the son of an honourable family of Touraine. The principal facts of the case as stated by counsel on both sides are as follows:—M. Georges de L., the son of Baron L., being of rather delicate health when a child, was educated at home by a private tutor, but never made much progress in his studies. When the time came for choosing a profession he decided on entering the army, and presented himself as a candidate for the Government schools, but failed at all his examinations. He then enlisted, with his parents' consent, and remained in the service several years. He was on the point of receiving a commission as officer when he fell into a dissipated course of life, was soon deeply involved in debt, and ultimately left the army. His parents paid his debts on condition that he should travel for some years, and he accordingly went to Italy, where he showed no signs of amendment, but became again involved in pecuniary difficulties. At Leghorn he fell in love with the daughter of a wealthy merchant and proposed marriage, but as his parents refused their consent, the matter went no further. At Turin, in 1859, he met with a lady who passed there as the Countess de R., reputed to be a widow, with a daughter seven years of age. With this person he became so enamoured that he offered her marriage, and solicited his father's consent, which was refused, in spite of all his efforts to obtain it, for his father had been credibly informed that the pretended countess was an adventuress who had never been married, and, though belonging to a respectable family, had been leading a gay life in Paris and elsewhere for years. The young man was fully aware of this, but persisted in his intention to marry her, and ultimately the marriage was celebrated at Contra, near Locarno, in Switzerland, in accordance with the Swiss laws. His father and mother had been duly informed of his intention, but the Swiss laws gave them no power to prevent the marriage. After living together a year or two, during which he exhausted his wife's resources and wearied out the patience of all her friends by his extravagance, he abandoned her and returned to his family, who immediately instituted the present suit to annul the marriage. The counsel for Mme. de L. argued in favour of the validity of the marriage, and depicted the conduct of her husband in anything but flattering colours. He deputed that there had been any concealment on her part respecting her real position; and maintained that, as the husband was above twenty-five years of age when married, and had duly informed his parents of his intended union, the marriage was perfectly legal, and could not be annulled. M. Pelletier, the substitute of the Procureur-Imperial, gave his opinion that, as the marriage was not preceded by all the formalities required by the law of France, it must be invalidated. The tribunal, after a prolonged deliberation, declared that the opinions of the judges were equally divided, and ordered that the cause should be tried again on a future day. The result of this trial resolves an important issue.

FEMALE FREEMASONRY.—The Italian Freemasons have just introduced an important innovation into the statutes of the society. There are now sister masons, venerables, and great mistresses. The *Correspondence*, of Rome, describes the ceremony of installation with much minuteness.

ODD FELLOWSHIP IN TURKEY.

THE officers and a numerous attendance of the members of the North London District of the Manchester L.O.F. assembled on Thursday sennight, at the Hand-in-Hand Lodge, held at the Red Lion Tavern, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, upon a novel and interesting occasion; the object of the meeting was to open (by proxy) a lodge in connexion with the above society, entitled the "Star of the East," to be held at Messrs. Ballard's, 15, Rue Woivoda Galata, Pera, Constantinople. D.G.M. Mitchell occupied the chair; and, after having addressed the meeting upon the importance of the business for which they had assembled, proceeded to elect the candidates for the intended lodge. Sixty persons were proposed and highly recommended by P.G. Stephens, of the "Hand-in-Hand" Lodge, now residing at Constantinople, and were duly initiated into the Order. The district officers then proceeded in the usual form, and, amidst the greatest applause of the brethren, declared the "Star of the East" Lodge duly constituted a lodge of the Manchester Unity—the first regular lodge night to take place Saturday, March 15, 1862, at Constantinople. P.P.G.M. Rough, a very efficient member of the district, was then nominated the N.G. of the new lodge for the occasion. Mr. Diphose, the G.M. of the district, in his address to the members, alluded to the value and importance of the society, and the gratifying circumstance of their having assembled for the purpose of extending the principles and usefulness of the society to a distant part of the world, and that it was cal-

A TRAGICAL STORY.

A LETTER from St. Petersburg, in the *Progres* of Lyons, gives the following details of the death of General Gerstenweig, Military Commandant of Warsaw, which it may be remembered took place some months since:—

"Three of the aides-de-camp of General Count Lambert, the Emperor's Lieutenant in Poland, hearing a loud altercation in the cabinet of the latter between him and Gerstenweig, entered, for the purpose of respectfully interposing, but the count, without giving them the time to speak, said, 'Gentlemen, I have just been grossly insulted,' and then turning to the general, added, 'After the word you have just uttered one of us must be dead to-morrow.'—'That should be so,' replied General Gerstenweig, with the greatest coolness; and the three officers, who had entered on a friendly mission, witnessed the most singular conditions. The laws in Russia interdict and severely punish duelling; and, moreover, in the present state of affairs in Poland, the effect would have been most disastrous, if any dispute were known to have arisen between the two highest persons in the Government of the kingdom. It was, therefore, decided that lots should be drawn by the two adversaries as to which of them should put an end to his existence. That sad formality took place with the greatest coolness, for both generals were models of bravery, and the lot fell on General Gerstenweig, who, turning to Count Lambert, said, in a firm voice, 'Count, there are several matters connected with the service to be arranged, and I have also private papers to put in order; will it suit you if I do not execute the sentence till to-morrow?'—'It is just what I should myself have requested,' replied Count Lambert. The two bowed courteously to each other, and General Gerstenweig withdrew. The three aides-de-camp, pale and motionless, remained silent, and the count, with much emotion, said to them, 'I can readily conceive, gentlemen, the feelings which oppress you, but the fault of this deplorable event does not lie with me,' and then, striking his forehead with his hand, he added, 'What a fatality! This will greatly affect the Emperor! I should have preferred that the tomb were opened for myself!'

On the following day General Gerstenweig, standing before a looking-glass, discharged two pistols at his head. The ball of the first went round part of the frontal bone, making, however, a deep incision on the left side of the skull. The second was mortal, and the general fell. Two soldiers, hearing the report, rushed into the room, and found him lying on the floor in great agony. They placed him on his bed, when he soon recovered his senses. He refused all medical assistance, but sent for his aide-de-camp. The report of his suicide soon became current, although every endeavour was used to make it believed that he had been struck by apoplexy. Count Lambert went to him, and shaking him by the hand, expressed his regret for what had happened, and retired bathed in tears. The general lived for forty-two hours in the greatest suffering, and then expired. He was sensible to the last, begging the officers who were near to him to conceal the cause of his death as long as possible from his wife. 'As to my son' (a young man of seventeen, now at St. Petersburg), 'let him know that I have not died like a coward, who failed in his duty, or feared the responsibility of his acts, but to obey the prescriptions of military honour. Let him know all, that he may honour the memory of his father.'

A TRAFALGAR VETERAN EATEN BY RATS.

ON Saturday afternoon, Mr. John Humphreys, the coroner, held an inquest at the Duke of York public-house, High-street, Shadwell, respecting the death of Charles Coffin, aged 87 years, a pensioner, who died at No. 1, Vine-street, Back-road, Shadwell. The evidence went to prove that the deceased was in the receipt of a pension, which he took monthly, at the office on Tower-hill. He had been on board the Victory, with Lord Nelson, at the battle of Trafalgar, where he was wounded. He had also been in other engagements, and was on board the Bellerophon when Napoleon Bonaparte was taken to St. Helena. On Saturday last he was in good health, and received his pay, when he returned home. He subsequently retired to rest, and was taken ill. Dr. Ross was sent for, and found the deceased sinking from exhaustion, from old age. The best remedies were administered, but the deceased gradually sank, and died on Wednesday. The owner of the lodging-house was called, and, in answer to the coroner, said that he could not tell how the deceased had been so disfigured about the face, which was partially destroyed by rats. He never saw any vermin of the kind in the house. There were several gipsy vans in the yard at the rear of the house, where a number of rats were kept, numbering, at times, three or four hundred, which were brought from the country for sale among the rat-killing fraternity in London. Dr. Ross, of High-street, Shadwell, said that the lower part of the face had been eaten away, and he could trace marks of rats upon the pillow near the deceased's head. The deceased had died from natural decay. The coroner, having remarked on the case, the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.

THE LATE SIR PETER LAURIE.—The will of Sir Peter Laurie, Knight, was proved in London on the 30th ult. The personality was sworn under £160,000. This well-known gentleman and popular civic alderman had attained the advanced age of eighty-three.

CHURCH BELLS IN INDIA.—The *Friend of India* says:—"Another English feature has been added to the many that Howrah already possesses. The English Church has been furnished with a peal of bells. They cost nearly three thousand rupees, and are said to be the only peal in India."



SWISS ALPINE CHALET.

culated to promote the cause of civilization in the best possible manner.

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY RELIEF FUND.

FOR the support of the families rendered destitute by the late melancholy disaster at Hartley the most ample provision has now been made. A meeting of the committee entrusted with the management of the funds was held in Newcastle on Thursday sennight, and by the secretary the agreeable announcement was made that the subscriptions towards the benevolent object have reached the handsome sum of nearly £50,000. It was at the same time stated that the number of sufferers entitled to receive relief was about 450, and that the estimated expenditure of the current year would be £4,000. Several communications, containing suggestions as to the appropriation of the surplus amount collected, were read, and to meet the almost universally-expressed wish of the subscribers, it was resolved to make a public intimation, to the effect that the committee would be prepared to hold any residue which might remain beyond the requirements of the present emergency, for the relief of similar cases of calamity in the counties of Northumberland and Durham, either as a basis of a permanent fund, or in any other mode which may hereafter be decided upon. A sum of £300 was voted to the fund being raised for a testimonial to Mr. Coulson and his heroic fellow-sinkers, and a motion to send six of the orphan girls to Haverstock School, provided they could be admitted for £50 each, was adopted.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

GARDENING AND AGRICULTURE.

This is a busy and important month for all gardening operations, both out and in-doors. In the conservatory, forcing-pits will now have to be kept in full activity to supply the various calls for plants in bloom, which during the spring months are more or less in demand in most establishments. Care should be taken before plants are moved to sitting-rooms to gradually harden them for a day or two, either by placing them in the conservatory or an intermediate house. Pay attention to the plants intended for successive blooming. Insects should be kept down, and every means enforced to keep the foliage clean and healthy. Narcissi, hyacinths, &c., should be carefully attended to as they now begin to show flower; as regards those in a less forward state remove the plunging material down to the surface of the pots to prevent them rooting upwards. Mignonette and Neapolitan violets will require abundance of light and air to keep them from damping.

Remove all extra buds from vines, except such as may be required for producing bearing wood. In leaving these latter, select such as are formed nearest the main stem to avoid the awkward appearance of long spurs at a stage farther in their growth. Such shoots as have more than one bunch should have them reduced to that number, selecting the one likeliest to form the handsomest cluster.

To those who have not the advantage of a pit for growing melons and cucumbers, the following way of forming a bed will be found better than making it wholly of dung, as it will not sink so much, nor take so strong a lining to keep up the heat. Mark off the size of the bed on the ground one foot longer and wider than the frame; then build up to this size, with faggots of stout brushwood, to the height of two feet; then lay a row of faggots, eighteen inches in diameter, along the back, front, and ends, for the frame to rest upon, placing them close and firm, leaving the interior space to be filled up with fermented dung and leaves as a foundation for the soil. The latter should be two feet in depth at least.

Except in particular cases, little more can be done in the flower garden and shrubberies at present than paying attention to order and neatness. Bedding plants, however, must have attention, for in all likelihood many things are suffering, and such plants as appear to be injured most should be removed to other quarters where a more favourable temperature is kept.

In the hardy fruit and kitchen garden, trees attacked by scale should now be well washed with a mixture of soft soap, tobacco water, and lime; a half-pint of spirits of turpentine may be added to each four gallons of the mixture when the trees are much infested. It is now necessary to determine what the different quarters of the garden shall be filled with during the season. Though one vegetable may be grown on the same ground for years, yet such a method induces a greater expense for manure and labour than when a regular system of rotation is adopted, as the culture of one vegetable often prepares the soil for the growth of another. The chief rule to be observed with all annual vegetables is never to have two crops of the same class directly following each other. Those who require to have several crops on the ground at the same time will find that celery gives a good preparation for carrots, turnips, parsnips, onions, and early cauliflowers, or for peas, with potatoes and winter greens, or brocoli between the rows. Autumn sown onions may be succeeded by spinach, lettuce, &c., and early cauliflower by autumn onions. Spring-sown onions will be advantageously succeeded by cabbages in beds, with scarlet runners between; and if the cabbages stand all summer and next winter, the ground will come in, in the spring, along with brocoli-ground, for celery, potatoes, and peas, the early potatoes being planted in the trenches, and the peas sown on the ridges. If not already done, a sowing of radishes may be made on a warm border if the weather is favourable; but the beds must be carefully covered in severe weather. Vacant ground may be dug, and everything that will forward the spring work should be done.

Agriculture in Algeria is rapidly improving. The following is an extract from a letter from there, of the 4th inst.:—"I am sending off this day by the messageries imperiales three packages



THE LITTLE BEGGAR AND CHILD.

In the farm-yard and fields all must be activity. The yards should be cleared out this month, and the manure taken as near the field for roots as possible. Turnip land should be ploughed for oats and barley; and wheat got in as speedily as possible.

In our accompanying engravings we give a farm-yard, with all its characteristics of cows coming down to the pond, chickens being fed, pigs enjoying their usual comfortable nap after a hearty meal. All looks smiling and plentiful contrasted with the little beggar and child looking wistfully into one of those poor mud hovels, or shanties, so common in many of our agricultural districts.

AT THE HARTLEY PIT-MOUTH.

WHAT a depth that dark hole must be that those ropes should go on rising and rising out of it, and still the line not come to an end! I watched it long, and it rose and rose still, and no end seemed possible. So I drew close to the mouth of the great black hole, and holding firmly to a wooden rail which guarded it—holding on against the Demon, which said "Jump in!"—I looked down into the darkness, and so waited, straining my eyes, and saying "No," as the Demon said "Jump in!" At last, as I watched, there was a sudden change in one of the ropes. I think it was turned into an iron chain; and in the next moment two strange-looking and darkly-clad men appeared, clinging to the chain. Swiftly they rose up out of the blackness into the light. But this was not all. There was more of a burden hanging to the rope than this, for the chain was tightened that hung below the two darkly-clad men, and something more was rising out of the dark hole which another turn of the wheel would bring to light. The end of the chain that hung below was clasped and girt about the bodies of two dead men. It was grappled about their waists, and so their heads had fallen back their faces were turned up to the sky, their hair streaming down in ragged locks, their arms and legs swung helplessly and heavily, and the weight of death was in every limb, and in every part of every limb. This ghastly apparition rose out of the black abyss,

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT FROM OMNIBUS RACING.

On Sunday evening, about eight o'clock, the passengers along the Wadworth-road were thrown into a state of great excitement by an occurrence which placed in most imminent peril the lives of twenty persons, and which resulted, it is feared, in mortal injuries to one man. It appeared that two Peckham omnibuses were indulging in the too frequent practice of racing, and Heath, the driver of one, in order to pass his rival, drove his horses between the pavement on his right hand and the rival omnibus. There was not, however, sufficient room for the vehicle to pass, and the front wheel struck the kerb, opposite Charlotte-row, with such force as to displace the granite block. The concussion was so violent that the unfortunate driver was thrown clear off his box, and in falling his leg was caught by the splinter bar, and he was dragged along for about twenty yards in that position, being dashed upon the ground with fearful force at every revolution of the wheels. The horses, which were spirited animals, being alarmed by the concussion, and finding the reins loose on their necks, dashed off up the road at a terrific pace in the direction of Camberwell-gate. The omnibus was filled with ladies, and there were eight gentlemen on the roof, and the shrieks of the women and the shouts of the men, who expected every moment that the vehicle would be dashed to pieces, were appalling. The certainty of a dreadful catastrophe appeared imminent as the horses approached the toll-gate on the near side, where the bar was closed, but providentially the omnibus pole took it fairly in the middle, and shivered it as if it had been made of reeds, so that the point was passed in safety. The driver of the other omnibus acted with great energy and presence of mind, and succeeded in heading the running horses, when the passengers were enabled to alight. Those on the roof had saved themselves from being thrown down by lying down at full length. The unfortunate driver, however, was found to have suffered injuries of a most terrible character. The flesh was torn from the calf of his leg, and the bone fractured. His skull was also fractured, and his face and scalp shockingly torn and disfigured. He was conveyed to Guy's Hospital on a stretcher by the police, where it was found necessary to amputate the injured limb, and the operation was performed forthwith by Mr. Bryant, and very slight hopes are entertained of his surviving.

HORRIBLE MURDER AT DERBY.

A COLD-BLOODED murder was perpetrated in the town of Derby, on Thursday evening week. A man named Thorley, a smith, and who is a widower, without children, fell in love with a good-looking Irish girl, named Eliza Morrell, aged twenty-seven, who lived in a court in Agard-street. Thorley had been paying the girl attention for about five months past, but the latter was not fond of him, and she had repeatedly expressed to him her intention of breaking off the connexion. On Sunday evening, Thorley found the girl in the company of a soldier, and she excited his passion by taking off the soldier's cap, and saying, "This is the soldier." On Monday night, Thorley saw the girl, when they had a quarrel, and again on Tuesday night. On both occasions he threatened to take away her life. On Thursday Thorley went to Eliza Morrell's house and asked to speak to her. She followed him out, and they went and stood against the wall in the court which leads into the street. They again quarrelled, and Mrs. Underwood and her daughter, who lived at the house at the front of the court, heard a peculiar noise outside; and on getting into the court they saw a man standing at the top of it. On seeing them, the man walked away, and Mrs. Underwood screamed out, "Eliza's stabbed." A young woman picked her up, and reared her against a spout on the opposite side of the yard, and at this moment a razor fell from her throat. The murdered woman ejaculated, "God be merciful to my soul!" "Lord have mercy on my soul!" "My eyesight, my eyesight!" and in about a minute afterwards she had ceased to exist. There is a very deep incised wound, which almost severed her head from the body, and there had evidently been a desperate struggle from the fact that the back of the poor girl's left hand had three wounds upon it, evidently inflicted whilst trying to get



THE FARM YARD.

addressed to London, containing respectively 50 kilos. new potatoes; 50 kilos. green peas (in shell); 20 dozen artichokes—all the produce of this place. I am sending these goods for sale in the London market by way of an experiment; if it succeeds, you may reckon upon a very important trade being opened up for similar goods *via* Boulogne." Should this experiment be successful we shall have green peas and new potatoes in winter.

and it was not a dream. While I was looking, the second rope turned into a chain, and one strangely-clad man, with a pale face, clung to it. Below him there hung grappled to the end of the chain a single corpse, with streaming locks and upturned face, like the others, and with powerless limbs that hung down as if the darkness claimed them and was loth to give them up. This was not a dream either.—*Dickens's All the Year Round.*

the razor away. On the back of the right hand there was also a deep gash.

Between ten and eleven o'clock the same evening, Detective Vessey was going down Canal-street, and saw the murderer on the other side of the road, and immediately secured him. The murderer appeared sober and collected, and said he intended giving himself up. He has a cut on one of his hands.

Literature.

THE BLACK MILL.

In the highlands of Bavaria lies the dark and gloomy valley of the Sitt, which in olden times was held to be haunted by evil spirits. The inhabitants were, for the most part, of the very lowest class, rough and ignorant, and sunk in superstition. There were not half a dozen people in this lonely Bavarian valley who did not believe in man's direct dealings with the devil. The chief man of the district was Frederic of the Black Mill, commonly called the Black Miller of Sittenthal. He was a man of some understanding and considerable property, but of the worst possible reputation—a bad son, a bad husband, and a bad father. His father, the old miller, had long lived in daily dread of some murderous violence from him; indeed, there were not wanting witnesses to swear that, when he lay sick and failing, his son had dragged him from his bed, and flung him down the stone steps in front of the mill, saying that he had lived long enough, and what room was there in the world for such a worn-out old wretch as he? So that when he died, a few days later, the ghastly shadow of parricide and murder had flitted through the house.

The "house-mother," Barbara, a gentle woman, was his chief victim. He never spoke to her, save by the most insulting names and epithets; he beat her daily, with or without provocation. He would absent himself for weeks, taking all the money with him, and locking up the family stores, so that the wife and children were nearly famished to death during his stay. To the twelve children borne him by poor Barbara he had never been friend or father. Of those only five remained alive, and more than one person said that the Black Miller had murdered the others. He made his sons his day-labourers, but gave them only blows and curses for their wages; his daughters were his house-servants in rags, shodless and half-starved, beaten and ill-treated like their mother.

The family consisted of two girls and two boys, the eldest of whom, Conrad, was eight-and-twenty; the youngest, Kunigunde, eighteen; a stable-lad of thirteen, who lived in the mill, but at a remote part of the house where he could hear very little; and Wagner, a day-labourer, who, with his wife, inhabited a small cottage, or lean-to, by the side. It was a lonely place, that old Black Mill of Sittenthal. There, though the wife was known to be a good woman, and the sons industrious, honest lads, yet the prejudices of the neighbours were too strong to be overcome, and weeks would pass without a soul of honest fame daring to venture within the shadow of that gloomy and accursed place.

On the 9th of August, 1817, the Black Miller suddenly disappeared. No one knew what had become of him. The mill family kept quiet for some time; but on the 11th of October Barbara went to lodge her statement with the magistrate, two months after her husband's disappearance. She said how the miller had gone, taking with him all his ready money and bank bills, leaving them nothing to eat, and no money to buy food. The magistrate heard the mill-wife's story, rubbed his chin, looked at her hard, and thought; then decided to give her letters of administration, and power to act until such time as the Black Miller chose to reappear. Barbara paid the gentleman heavily, and smiled as she returned to her home. Then she and her sons entered into the peaceful occupation of the Black Mill, its lands and revenues, waiting for the time until the miller would return.

For more than a year they led the most contented and undisturbed life possible. This one brief year was the most prosperous and contented, outwardly, that the family at the Black Mill had ever known. It was the general opinion that the miller had been carried off bodily by the devil; others spoke on the subject below their breath, and mysteriously. Soon a low heavy murmur went round; a horrible suspicion; pale lips muttered MURDER—the murder of a father and a husband, wife and children all consenting. But all agreed that Wagner and his witch-wife knew more of the business than any one else. Wagner lived in the little cottage or house beside the mill, and was a discharged soldier; a man of bad parentage and worse life. His wife was no better than himself, and had, moreover, the reputation of being a dangerous witch. But they were both much patronised at the Black Mill—almost fearfully so—for what but fear, and the possession of some dread power, could induce such women as Barbara and her daughters to hold constant friendly intercourse with anything so vile as Anna Wagner? and what but the knowledge of some awful secret could give that desperate villain, her husband, such influence over Conrad and young Frederic? Besides, Wagner had been heard to say, jeeringly, that if he told all that he knew, the old place would crack asunder for very terror; and that, as for the mill family, they were indeed bound to be kind to him. All these rumours and hints coming finally, and last of all, to the ears of the magistrate, a search was decided on, and the police entered the mill. But Barbara and the sons knew the weakness of the official. A blind of gold soon darkened his eyes, and neither he nor his gendarmes could discover a trace of foul play.

In 1821, the magistrate fell under the displeasure of his superiors. A commission was sent down to examine and report on his conduct, during which time he was suspended, and access to the registration office denied him. A fire suddenly broke out in the registration office, where all the deeds were kept. Among the papers saved was one headed, "Touching the appointment of a curator for the absent Black Miller," by which it appeared evident that more lay behind than had ever been made manifest to the public. The new commissioner was energetic; he soon learnt the story of the Black Miller, and he resolved at once on his course of action. That very evening, while Barbara and her children were standing by the table saying grace before supper, he surrounded the mill with soldiers, and placed every one of them under separate arrest. And first were examined Barbara and her two sons, but without effect. But the next day Wagner was taken. It was not long before he smoothed away all difficulties, and knotted the halter for his own neck quite resignedly. Silently he led the soldiers over a waste bit of ground that lay near the mill, up to a steep ravine.

"Here," said Wagner, "may the corpse of the Black Miller be found, for here the sons flung him after they had murdered him!" The soldiers began to dig; they came to a heap of dead leaves, and the next instant their picks struck the skeleton of a human being!

When the wife and children were brought to the place, "Yes," said Conrad, "that is my father, but I am not the doer." Frederic, the second son, when asked, said, "They are bones; but whether they are the bones of a man or beast I do not know." Kunigunde cried out, "I know nothing of it." Margaret, the second daughter, also said, "Indeed I am innocent."

The wife, her four children, and Wagner, were all indicted for the murder of the Black Miller, and matters looked very doubtful for the entire group. Then the truth came out.

Things, always bad, had become unbearable at the Black Mill. The violence and cruelty of the Black Miller seemed as if they had reached their height; and when he threatened, as he did, to murder them all, one by one, the bravest or the most hopeful could not believe that threat a mere empty sound, meaning nothing. In short, what with cruelty, vice, and meanness, carried to the very verge of starvation, it had become a hand-to-hand struggle for life or death between the family and the father.

Wagner bore as little goodwill to the Black Miller as any other; and such service as he proposed to himself to offer the family, would bind the young sons to him for ever, unlock the family

coffers, and make him master and independent for life. The sons fell into the snare, to consent, not to a murder, but to a blow in self-defence, for the protection of their beloved mother. But at first only by the milder means of sorcery and magic. The witch-wife Anna undertook this part of the business, and hung up a pair of the father's stockings in the chimney; by which, according to the laws of witchcraft, his life would have wasted away as the stockings shrivelled and consumed. But finding that these charms had no effect, the matter was trusted to the man's surer hand, and Wagner must murder the old man before the old man had time to murder them. When they had consented to this, Wagner, prepared by the door of the miller's sleeping-room, struck down their old tyrant in the midst of his sins, the sons aiding actively, the mother more passively, with her prayers. Then they carried the corpse to the saw-mill, where they buried it.

Now that the thing was discovered and known, all evasion was at an end. Wagner confessed to every particular, with the same brutal indifference as had characterised him all along. Conrad and Wagner, as chief actors, were condemned to civil death, with solitary confinement for life; Frederic, as an accomplice, to fifteen years; Barbara to eight years; and Anna Wagner to one year's imprisonment; but Margaret and Kunigunde, the two daughters, were declared innocent.

THE SHADOW OF WRONG.

A ROMANCE.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "MY GOLDEN SKELETON," "STORM-BEATER," "A HEART STEADFAST," ETC.

CHAPTER XI.

JONATHAN JEFFCOCK.—TIDINGS FROM HOME.

"Hush! hush!" cried Sarah, leaning forward with a wild gleam in her eyes; for the words of the strange old gentleman painfully recalled the past. "Don't mention that name again."

"And why not?"

"You know me, then?" cried the girl.

"This is the first time that we have met to my knowledge," grunted the shabby gentleman; "but an affectionate friend of mine has sent me your photograph, and by that I recognise you."

An expression, half of wonder, half of fear, faded on the girl's face, and her eyes gleamed with a new hope.

"My name is not Sarah Harris!" she said with emphasis.

"Nonsense!" growled the other, with a decisive nod and a satisfied chuckle. "There is no mistaking the expression of those eyes and that mouth. Besides, miss, let me tell you that you've already pleaded guilty by your manner. Oh, I'm as sharp as a needle, let me tell you—sharp as a needle; and try me as you may, you'll find there's no deceiving me!"

"Well, well," murmured the girl carelessly, "what do you want with me?"

"Don't be in too great a hurry to learn, miss. It's enough that I want to have some conversation with you."

"Pooh!—and what if instead of sitting here, I don't choose to listen to you, old man?"

"I like that. Now, listen. What if, instead of meeting you all fair and above-board, in a friendly way, I was to have you taken off to the police-office, and there to have our conversation?"

"You couldn't do that!" cried the girl excitedly. "I've done nothing as I know of; I haven't robbed or killed anybody, and I'm as free to go about my own business as you are."

"Gently, gently," chuckled the shabby old gentleman; then lowering his voice to a scarcely audible whisper, he said, "Sarah, I've come from your poor old father, and I've got full power to take you back to him at a minute's notice."

The girl gave a very slight start; tears stood in her eyes, and she clenched her thin fingers convulsively.

"Don't mention him!—don't mention him! If you mention his name again I'll tear you to pieces!"

She spoke with sudden fierceness, and shook her clenched hand in his face. He fidgetted uncomfortably on his chair, and moved back a few inches, with a motion which is generally known as a development of the soothing system.

"Don't agitate yourself," grumbled the shabby old gentleman. "I didn't mean to hurt your feelings. There, now, drink your coffee, and let us talk over this matter sensibly. I say, then, your father wants to know whether or not you won't go home. He says by-gones shall be by-gones, and he bears no malice."

The poor girl had a hard struggle to keep down the tears which were choking her; but with a great effort she conquered, and shook her head bitterly.

"I'd rather die," she said, with great emotion, "than cross father's door after what's taken place. He was real fond of me, father was, and it nearly broke his heart when I went away. No! I wouldn't cut a bit at his table, not for fifty thousand pound!"

"That's just it!" cried the shabby man. "Of course you wouldn't! I was sure you wouldn't! Of course not!"

She stared in surprise at his evident exultation.

"After what's taken place," he continued, "as you very properly observed, you couldn't in conscience go back. Could you, now? Certainly not. Then the question is, miss—what do you mean to do?"

"Nothing," answered Sarah, sullenly.

"Humph!"

"If you're a friend of father's, sir, you can tell him that for his sake I'm very sorry as things has turned out so bad, and that I can't last long with the misery that's wearing and tearing of me."

The girl was pouring out her sorrows rather loudly; in so much, that some of her words were caught by the neighbouring company, which began to stare.

"Can't we find some quieter place to talk?" suggested the old gentleman.

"There's more company in some of the back streets, but you're minded less."

"Let us go somewhere else, then."

They rose and passed down the room. The girl looked nervous and agitated as she passed Vaughan and Lord Frederick. She went out with her companion; and, after a few muttered words to each other, the friends followed.

Life was now at boiling heat. Kindled by the dissipations of a long evening, it was indulging itself with noise and riot. Still, ghostly as was its joviality, it was genuine; and—so far at least—the eyes saw only one side of the picture.

Passing up several narrow lanes and alleys, which were crowded with men and women in various stages of intoxication, Sarah and her companion halted before the door of a public-house; but, on an inspection, the place proved to be full of people.

"On second thoughts," said the man, "why can't we have our conversation out in the street?"

"Why not?" muttered Sarah, carelessly.

They passed back as they came; and then, halting at the top of the Haymarket, conversed together in low tones. Suddenly the woman uttered a low cry, as if in pain.

"You don't mean to say it was him as sent you to find me out?" she cried.

"Him, and no other."

"Then take back your money, for it's his money; and he's a villain, and I wouldn't defile my fingers with a penny of his for all the world!"

"Soh!"

She tore into fragments a five-pound note, which the shabby old

gentleman had just pressed into her hand, and was trampling on the fragments fiercely.

"What right has he to send you after me, I should like to know? What right has he to dog my footsteps like this? I hate him!—I scorn him!—I'd kill him, if I could! Yes, I would!"

"He'll be very miserable when he hears this. Won't you hear his message?"

"Yes, I'll hear that!"

"He's sorry for you, miss; and if he wasn't already married, he says he'd do the handsome by you."

"Marry him! I wouldn't marry him now—no, not to save my soul!"

"Really, now! Well, he says that if you'll leave the country and go to Australia, he'll give you a good hundred to start in life with."

The girl stamped on the pavement fiercely.

"I tell you I hate him and his money like poison. He wants to get me out of the way, does he? Then you tell him this—I mean to stop here, bed as I am, until the time comes when I can pay him out for all he's done to me! You hear that, old man? I'll have his life, yet—the villain!"

"It strikes me, old gentleman, that you are annoying this lady!" said a third voice—that of Vaughan, who, with his friend, had approached the speakers. "Is it not so, young lady?"

Sarah nodded her head.

"Then, oblige me by making yourself as scarce as possible! This young lady is under my protection!"

"Yes—yes; make him go away," said the girl, seizing him by the arm; "he's a villain! Mr. Vaughan, for the sake of old times, send him away! He's sent after me by him as got me into trouble!"

"Who are you?" asked Vaughan, imperiously, of the shabby old gentleman.

"My name is Jeffcock, sir—Jonathan Jeffcock; and I have been instructed by this girl's friends to persuade her to return home, and to see that no further wrong is done to her."

"Thank you," said Vaughan, with a slight sneer.

The girl clung closely to her protector, and the gas glared upon her pale face.

"Don't be afraid," whispered Vaughan. "I will take care of you."

They were about to move away, when our old friend Jonathan Jeffcock, who had been standing flinching with his umbrella, and looking more wooden than ever, stopped.

"I don't know who you are," he said, addressing Vaughan in a dogged sort of way, "but I would recommend you to mind your own business and leave that girl alone."

"And I would recommend you," retorted Vaughan, "to get out of this as quick as possible, or you may find the consequences anything but agreeable."

Again they were about to move away.

"Now, now, look here!" cried Jonathan; "you don't know what I want that girl for—I want to save her."

"Indeed!" said Vaughan, sarcastically.

"For mercy's sake, lead me away," whispered the girl, who was trembling by his side; "that man is the servant of a villain!"

A small crowd, consisting principally of females, had gathered round the disputants, evidently taking a deep interest in the discussion.

"Come, then," said Vaughan to his companion.

The crowd made a passage for them.

"But—but—I say!—H!" cried Jonathan, wildly attempting to follow them.

The crowd closed upon him.

"Take it easy, old chap!" benevolently observed one fair dame.

"There are plenty of other girls!" cried another.

One by one, and sometimes two at a time, the ladies offered sarcastic consolation to the distressed Jonathan. He stamped upon the ground with his feet, and struck the ground with his umbrella, and gnashed his teeth; and Life seemed to think it was fine fun.

"You'll injure your digestion, if you don't be quiet!" said one.

"Will you let me pass?" shouted Jonathan.

"Oh! we wouldn't detain you for the world!" said several voices.

"Let the old fellow look for his girl!"

"She's been and jilted her grandfather!"

And Life laughed immensely as Jonathan broke through its mist, and away up the street like mad.

When Vaughan and Sarah had got out of the crowd, they had found Lord Frederick, leaning against an adjoining lamp-post, quietly surveying the scene before him. The three walked up the street in silence. They diverged to the left, and turned into Regent-street. Here the lamps only lit the street, with an occasional stream from some side lane, where Life was "keeping it up" in a more subdued style than in its head-quarters—the Haymarket.

"Well, Sarah," said Vaughan, at length, "how is it that we find you here?"

"Oh, don't ask me—don't ask me!" replied Sarah, imploringly.

"Don't bother her with any questions, just now," whispered Lord Frederick. "Poor thing, she is dreadfully agitated."

They walked on in silence again. The two men felt themselves to be in an awkward position with the girl whom they had taken under their protection.

"Are you going home?" inquired Vaughan.

"Home!" said Sarah, with a start. "Yes, yes; I am going home. Let us part now."

"Tell me, first, where do you live?"

"No, no! you must not see me again."

"I must see you again, for your poor old father's sake."

The girl nodded.

"This will kill me!" she cried. "Oh, if it would! But no! I must live on yet awhile in this life of misery!"

"Hush!" said Vaughan; "we will save you. I will get a cab, and you can go home now. I will call upon you to-morrow afternoon, when you will be better able to talk to me."

She made no reply. They stopped close to a cab-stand, and they were immediately saluted by half-a-dozen gruff voices, crying,

"Cab, sir?—cab, sir?"

Vaughan engaged one, and was about to hand the girl into it, when pulling, and steaming, and out of breath, flourishing his umbrella in a violent fashion, up came Jonathan Jeffcock.

"Stop! Stop a minute! I just want to say a word to this girl," cried he, scarcely able to speak for want of breath.

"You here again?" cried Vaughan, angrily.

"Now, don't kick up a row," said Lord Frederick.

"I—I don't want to have nothing to do with you," said Jonathan, moving up to the side of Sarah.

"Now, look here," said Vaughan, catching him by the collar of the coat; "if you don't take yourself off at once, I'll kick you."

"I only want to speak a single word to the girl—will you let me alone?"

"Be off, then."

"Here, cabman, I take you as a witness, if this fellow ill-treats me—"

"I haven't nothing to do with the matter," growled the cabman, mindful of who had engaged him.

"Let him say what he wants to say," said Lord Frederick.

"I've a great mind to—"

"Oh, please do not get yourself into trouble," cried Sarah; then, turning to Jeffcock, "What is it you want with me?"

Vaughan released him, and stepped aside.

Jeffcock shook himself, and catching the girl by the arm, said

